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Further Reaction to U.S. Proposal at START Talks

'Apprehensions' Over Verification

LD2206134589 Moscow TASS in English 1230 GMT 22 Jun 89

["Bush Initiative Generates New Problems in Geneva"—TASS headline]

[By TASS military affairs commentator Vladimir Bogachev]

[Text] Moscow June 22 TASS—Contrary to forecasts by many American observers who predicted that the new U.S. Administration would adopt "wait-and-see" tactics at talks with the Soviet Union on nuclear and space arms, President Bush has issued a statement indicating a substantial departure from the former U.S. stand at the Geneva negotiations.

The statement demonstrated the White House intention to put off a strategic offensive arms reduction (START) treaty until the United States conducts "on-site trial inspections" of Soviet weapons.

The change in the U.S. position effectively concerns issues that have already been hammered out, while not altering existing disagreements on such important problems as long-range sea- and air-launched cruise missiles and compliance with the 1972 ABM [Anti-Ballistic Missile] Treaty.

In short, far from making it easier to overcome the old problems at the talks, the Bush initiative only generates new ones.

Apart from everything else, the signing of a START treaty may now be postponed further for purely technical reasons.

"The impression is that the U.S. President's initiative is not yet fully thought-out. A proposal assumes real contours only after being put on the negotiating table. So far, this hasn't happened," a spokesman for the Soviet Armed Forces General Staff told TASS.

"But apprehensions are already arising that shifting emphasis at the Geneva talks to on-site inspections even before the signing of a START treaty may divert the parties' attention (?from the) search for mutually acceptable decisions on real arms reductions," he added.

It is also noteworthy that before the Soviet-American START talks resumed, the Bush administration announced its intention to deploy new mobile ICBM [inter-continental ballistic missile] systems—the MX and the Midgetman.

This must naturally prompt questions about the sincerity of Washington's declarations that the United States is seeking cuts in strategic nuclear weapons [words indistinct].

Concern Over Inspections 'Justified'

PM2306091989 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Jun 89 Second Edition p 5

[Vitaliy Gan dispatch: "From Old Positions?"]

[Text] Washington—Reports that the White House has decided to put forward an initiative at the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space arms which have resumed in Geneva to hold "test inspections" prior to the conclusion of a treaty have evoked noticeable concern in the United States.

Some specialists regard this move by President Bush as tantamount to "putting the cart before the horse," to say the least. Others, in particular P. Warnke, the former head of the U.S. delegation at the SALT II negotiations, and S. Keeny, president of the Association of Arms Control Champions, express the opinion that hidden behind this presidential initiative is a desire to block the sides' progress in resolving the key task of effecting a 50-percent reduction in both sides' strategic offensive weapons.

"Bush's new initiative will merely hamper progress at the talks and postpone the achievement of a favorable result of any kind," Keeny has said. According to Warnke, "verification is the last resort of the ill-intentioned people who are seeking to thwart the conclusion of a treaty."

Despite the administration's assurances to the contrary, concern has also been expressed during Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearings. Availing himself of the opportunity provided by Secretary of State Baker's statement, Senator J. Biden categorically demanded an explanation. According to his opinion, Bush's decision could be interpreted as either a misplaced desire "to put his own stamp" on the structure of the future treaty, or an attempt "to divert attention from the real problems that remain unsolved," which could result in an agreement being delayed indefinitely. Biden stressed that there is every indication that there is strong support in the Senate for a treaty based precisely on the structure that has already been agreed. Baker's answers, phrased in general terms, about the administration's intention to seek the conclusion of a treaty were hardly likely to satisfy the senator.

It must be noted that Washington observers too have assumed a relatively critical stance vis-a-vis the White House position. Holding inspections, the ABC television network noted, will mean that inspectors will obtain a mass of information, while the conclusion of a treaty will, in all likelihood, take many years. After all, the administration has embarked on the talks from old positions and all the problems which blocked the achievement of an accord remain, including the "Star Wars program." The CBS television network noted that "Bush's key word is continuity. No major changes to the Reagan administration's approach, but that also means no new solutions to old problems." According to CBS, "Bush is possibly the first U.S. president in many decades who has let it be known that nuclear missile reduction is not his main priority. There are no new proposals, just as there is no target date for the conclusion of a treaty." The emphasis on "rapid" reduction of conventional arms and armed forces instead of nuclear arms reductions, the television network pointed out, is at least partly the result of "his mistrust of the Soviets."

It is too early, of course, to draw any conclusions or to anticipate the course of the talks. However, as is well known, there is no smoke without fire, and the concern that is currently spreading on the Potomac, appears to be fully justified.

Batsanov Addresses Geneva Disarmament Conference

LD2206142789 Moscow TASS in English 1335 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] Geneva June 22 TASS—Security has to be achieved above all by political means, said head of the Soviet delegation Sergey Batsanov, who spoke at today's plenary meeting of the conference on disarmament. This is a basic principle of Soviet foreign policy laid down in the message to the peoples of the world, adopted recently by the Congress of People's Deputies of the USSR. The Soviet policy in the field of disarmament is based on this principle.

Expressing satisfaction with the positive trends gathering momentum in international relations, the Soviet representative underscored the need to keep outer space free from weapons and to rely on multilateral diplomacy more actively for this purpose, above all—on the conference on disarmament, as this is emphasized in Mikhail Gorbachev's message to the leaders of the six states. The Soviet delegation hopes that the current summer session of the conference will achieve real progress in implementing the appeal of the Paris conference for an early preparation of the convention on the complete and universal ban on chemical weapons and liquidation of their stockpiles.

The head of the Soviet delegation favours [words indistinct] the conference of a working body on disarmament which would get down forthwith to the priority question of complete and total ban on nuclear weapons tests. The work of the conference to prevent the arms race in space also needs to be reactivated.

CEMA Confers on Public Relations in Nuclear Power

LD2006192889 Moscow TASS in English 1856 GMT 20 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow June 20 TASS—The problem of ensuring radiation safety at nuclear power plants and of dumping radioactive waste is especially acute in the present-day world, Aleksandr Protsenko, chairman of the USSR Committee on the Use of Atomic Energy, has stated. He spoke on Tuesday at the opening of a conference of the CMEA member states on work with public opinion in the sphere of nuclear power engineering. We cannot ignore public opinion, he pointed out. Under the impact of public opinion the construction of a number of nuclear power plants was suspended in the past several years.

The conference is being attended, aside from Soviet specialists, by representatives of Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Poland and Czechoslovakia.

Sergey Yermakov, a senior executive from the Soviet public information centre under the interdepartmental council for information and public relations, spoke about his experience of work with the population in this sphere. He pointed to the need for a more responsible approach to the construction of nuclear power plants and the choice of a site for them. Two years ago systematic and consistent work was started for informing the population on all the problems connected with nuclear power engineering. At present a "data bank" is being created. According to Yermakov, they regard as their main task the dissemination of basic information about nuclear power engineering among all the sections of the population. In his opinion, a common stand will be worked out in the future jointly with the public through overcoming misunderstanding and antagonism.

Jan Kubit, director of the Polish department for public information and the training of the personnel, told the conference that in Poland they were gradually overcoming the population's mistrust for all that is connected with nuclear power through the everyday arduous work with the public. Other representatives of socialist countries also told the conference about their experience of work in this sphere.

Engineers To Work 'Via Glasnost'

LD2206012389 Moscow TASS in English 1956 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow June 21 TASS—A resident of any place across the Soviet Union can dial a certain telephone number reported in the press to get an expert reply to any question he has about nuclear power engineering. The conference of representatives of the member-states of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) which discussed public relations in the field of atomic power engineering heard it from Sergey Yermakov, a leader of the Soviet Center for Public Information at the intersectoral Council for Information and Public Relations. It is this center that runs the telephone service in question. The conference that opened here on Tuesday [20 June] is attended by representatives of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Bulgaria, Hungary, the German Democratic Republic, Poland and Czechoslovakia.

Yermakov said that Soviet engineers intended to make extensive use of international experience in their work with the public. Thus, he noted that the Soviet Union intends to publish special literature on the question already made public by other nations and the International Atomic Energy Agency.

During the conference the role played by the public in the field was discussed. "Via glasnost (openness) toward security" is the only plausible way toward the desired objective in the present circumstances, the experts believe.

Thanks to openness of information to the people, there is no public opposition to nuclear power engineering in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Jan Kantor, official of the Czechoslovak Ministry of Fuel and Power Engineering told the conference. Just on the contrary, many specialists from other branches regard their own attainments as related with the development of nuclear power engineering.

45th CEMA Session Scheduled for Fall in Sofia

LD2206134989 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1322 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow, 22 Jun (TASS)—The information section of the CEMA Secretariat announced that, by mutual arrangement with the CEMA countries, the 45th regular sitting of the session of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance is scheduled to take place in Sofia, the capital of Bulgaria, in the fall of this year.

Warsaw Pact States Hold Information Meeting

LD2106221489 Moscow TASS in English 2124 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] Bucharest June 21 TASS—A regular two-day session of the multilateral current information group including representatives of the Warsaw Treaty member-states concluded today in Bucharest. An exchange of opinions and information on certain international issues of mutual interest took place at the session.

A dinner in honor of the session participants was given on behalf of the Deputy Foreign Minister of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Constantin Oancea.

Ryzhkov Message to 'Group-77' Forum Published

PM2306101189 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Jun 89 Second Edition p 1

[Message from N. Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers: "To the Participants in the 'Group-77' Member Countries Foreign Ministers' Jubilee Conference"]

[Text] I greet the participants in the "Group-77" member countries jubilee conference—an important organization of multilateral economic diplomacy which unites 127 developing states in Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

Over a quarter of a century of its existence "Group-77" has made a weighty contribution to consolidating the actions of developing countries in the international economic relations sphere. However, in the absence of real progress in the cause of achieving a cardinal improvement in world economic ties, there have been no tangible changes for the better in alleviating the calamitous position of the majority of developing countries. Hundreds of millions of people in the developing world are today suffering from a crisis caused by foreign debt, starvation, disease, poverty, the deteriorating ecological situation, and natural disasters. The external conditions of development, which are affected by the instability of the currency and financial situation, trade contradictions and disproportions, and the spread of protectionism, remain unfavorable.

The realities of interdependence demand a redoubling of efforts to resolve the global problems of the present time through universal dialogue and partnership among all countries and the demilitarization and de-ideologization of interstate relations.

The United Nations system, in which "Group-77" is pursuing an active and constructive line, is called upon to play a special role in establishing this kind of collaboration.

During the preparations for the special UN General Assembly session on international economic cooperation and other important conferences in this sphere, the Soviet Union will cooperate closely with "Group-77" and all other countries with a view to ensuring that these forums are fruitful.

Allow me to wish "Group-77" success in its work which is so important for achieving a universal consensus on ways to resolve global socioeconomic problems for the benefit of all the world's countries.

[Signed] N. Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers

CSCE Conference on Human Rights Continues

PM2206135089 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Jun 89 Second Edition p 5

[Own correspondent V. Bolshakov report: "Learning From One Another: The Conference on the Human Dimension Ends in Paris"]

[Text] A characteristic feature of this CSCE forum was the abundance of press conferences and all kinds of meetings.

At the press center on the Avenue Kleber the Soviet delegation, headed by Yu.V. Kashlev, met for perhaps the first time in our history with representatives of Western organizations of "rights campaigners." Incidentally, also in the room were envoys from some of our own "informal" groups, who were invited here, to Paris, by their French colleagues.

Our diplomats, scientists, and experts did not avoid the difficult questions. They answered all of them. And the most important thing is that these were real answers, with facts and figures, names of people and organizations, and not the evasive answers that are familiar from past times.

Now, when we hear criticism against us even from "rights campaigners," we no longer talk about interference in internal affairs. And if they have something to say to us, a point to make, then we will only thank them. All one can ask for is objectivity and fidelity to the facts.

And although there is now notably less in the way of outright unscrupulousness, deliberate distortions, and simple abuse aimed at us, not all the meetings at and near the Avenue Kleber had improved in terms of the standard of thoughtfulness and impartiality. The day after the Paris forum opened I happened to be at a press conference at the Sorbonne on the subject of "The Human Rights Situation in the USSR." It was organized by the U.S. delegation. When I arrived, a certain Mrs Alekseyeva, formerly a Soviet citizen, was speaking. Now she is one of the leaders of the social organization "Helsinki Watch," which "monitors" the fulfillment of the Helsinki agreements and related agreements by the CSCE countries. The thrust of her speech was that the human rights situation in the USSR has deteriorated recently, and that the next conference on the human dimension should not be held in Moscow in 1991, as is envisaged in the concluding document of the Vienna meeting. Indeed, the whole press conference was in a similar spirit.

No, I do not think by any means that we are infallible. We have plenty of defects and mistakes in the sphere of the "defense of rights." But that hardly justifies taking only one color—black—from the whole spectrum. Yu.

Reshetov, chief of the USSR Foreign Minsitry Humanitarian Cooperation and Human Rights Department, spoke of the group of American psychiatrists' visit in March this year.

The American doctors were able to examine any patient they named. If they named a person who was being treated in Chelyabinsk or Irkutsk, that person came to Moscow. Or they were given the opportunity to convince themselves that the person did not want to meet with them. The American psychiatrists were given the opportunity to study copies of all the case histories that interested them. They inspected psychiatric clinics in Moscow, Leningrad, and Kazan, and even in Chernyakhovsk in Kaliningradskiy Rayon, Kaliningrad Oblast, which is closed to foreigners.

Is that not an indication of the USSR's patent desire to clear up all the questions relating to human rights, even in this sensitive sphere? Soviet psychiatrists now await a similar invitation to the United States. Are they prepared for the same degree of openness and glasnost?

The question of reciprocity was one of the main issues at the Paris human rights forum. None of the Western delegates here can be accused of lacking enthusiasm when it comes to "monitoring" the observance of human rights in the Soviet Union. But where they themselves are concerned, they seem to have lost their tongues. "We have told you, gentlemen, what we have been doing since Vienna and how we are bringing our legislation into line with the Vienna concluding document," the head of the Soviet delegation said in his speech. "Now we would like to hear from you, what are you doing in this sphere? We hear wishes expressed as far as we are concerned, and demands: 'Replace this, revoke that!' But human rights are a delicate matter. And former U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz rightly said that progress in this sphere is a two-way street."

But many unclear points have accumulated here. For instance, when will the United States finally deal with the practice there of refusing people a job solely on the basis that the job is not available to unbelievers? Or the constant refusals to issue entry visas to Soviet trade union delegations? And, last, when will our Western partners in the dialogue on human rights, who are today prepared to play the most active part in writing our laws, sign and ratify those international pacts and conventions on the protection of these rights to which they, unlike the USSR, are not yet parties? These questions are not asked in order to put someone on the spot or hit out at them. Life raises these questions.

When we speak of a single legal space, the USSR delegates reminded their Western colleagues, we envisage that we will be thinking in terms of good laws, a high standard of legal culture. When there is something we can learn from the West, we are prepared to do so. But what about the West? After all, we have some things that people living there can only dream of. For instance, laws on the right to labor, education, housing.

Unfortunately, not everyone is ready to recognize this interdependence today. But this is what FRG Foreign Minister H.-D. Genscher said from the conference platform: "Europe, which remembers its common culture, could also achieve a common legislative culture. In this connection the thesis advanced by Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze on a single legal space seems highly promising to me..."

...In the streets of Paris, workers march with their comrades. Ten trade union activists were dismissed for "unauthorized" trade union activity on the premises of the "Renault" plants near Paris. The struggle for their defense has been going on for 2 years now. For 2 years they have lived in a state of "suspense," along with their wives and children. The other day they came here to the Avenue Kleber to seek the protection of their rights from the international community. The CSCE human dimension mechanism is in action, gathering speed. It is irreversible. We must learn to use it for the benefit of all countries and peoples. Everyone must learn, for the sake of the future, for the sake of man.

Adamishin Addresses Participants

LD2206181989 Moscow TASS in English 1555 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] Paris June 22 TASS—The final stage has set in at the Paris meeting of the conference on human dimension of the European process. Representatives of delegations address open plenary meetings. They sum up the results of three weeks of intensive work, make various proposals for the deepening of cooperation in the humanitarian area.

"The Paris conference, just as the talks on the reduction of armed forces and armaments in Europe and the London forum on information show that the Vienna agreements are operating and are filled with specific contents. The Vienna document, just as the Madrid document and the fundamental Helsinki Final Act set out the course to a lofty goal—the construction of the common European home", Anatoliy Adamishin, USSR deputy foreign minister, said at the meeting today.

"The contours of the common European home have (?become clearly) visible as a result of the recent visit to Bonn by General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee and President of the USSR Supreme Soviet Mikhail Gorbachev. The joint statement adopted there showed that the Europeans look for new bold roads to future. There is no doubt that this creative quest will be continued at the coming Soviet-French summit", he said.

"The work of the humanitarian conference in Paris was followed with special attention in the Soviet Union since a humanitarian conference will be held in Moscow in two years", Adamishin said. "There is a ground for satisfaction with how the new and exceptionally important aspect, the human dimension is manifesting itself in the European process. From now on cooperation of 35 countries, participants in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) is unthinkable without that notion. A constructive atmosphere reigned at the Paris forum. The striving to understand each other, to achieve a real improvement in the area of human rights was manifested at the forum, though, regrettably, there were still attempts to score points in propaganda. But on the whole, it can be said with confidence that the line at passing on from confrontation to cooperation that was started recently in the humanitarian area has been continued. The Soviet Union is precisely for such a course on all the directions of international politics. It is precisely from this viewpoint that the results of the Paris conference suit our concept of restructuring world affairs," Adamishin said.

"The practice of joint creative work, joint proposals of East and West, has perhaps manifested itself so tangibly for the first time. It is particularly pleasant to us that due to joint efforts of the USSR, France, the FRG, Austria, and Czechoslovakia, the idea of eventually evolving uniform legal norms in the region of the countries, participating in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe starts being implemented in a practical way", the Soviet deputy foreign minister said.

"We are told sometimes: Become as we are in the West and then we shall trust you completely. But we have taken our own, socialist road, striving to use everything positive that has been created by the human civilisation and to make our own contribution", Adamishin said.

"The two great revolutions, the French Revolution of 1789 and the Russian Revolution of 1917 have largely shaped the way of thinking that this day prevails in social conscience. This is the common historic experience. But life progresses, a new world is shaping for which new roads to future must be sought," Adamishin said.

Warsaw Pact Military Chief Attends Bavaria Forum

LD2206193689 Moscow TASS in English 1748 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] Bonn June 22 TASS—The theme of a seminar which opened in Ebenhausen (Bavaria) at the initiative of the West German Fund of Science and Politics and the Polish Institute of International Relations is urgent issues of international security and military doctrines of the Warsaw Treaty organisation and NATO. It is attended by politicians, scholars and representatives of the armed forces of European countries and the United States. Seminar participants also include Army General Vladimir Lobov, chief of staff of the Warsaw Treaty Armed Forces.

Local political quarters point out that the seminar in Ebenhausen is taking place under a favourable atmosphere which has developed after the West German visit by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. The comparison at the seminar of strategic concepts and doctrines of the two military-political alliances will help remove mistrust and suspicion between states.

'Interatomcontrol-89' Exhibition Opens in Moscow

LD2206171789 Moscow TASS in English 1605 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow June 22 TASS—The Soviet Union has drawn up a comprehensive nuclear plant safety programme which provides for developing diagnostics systems to detect anomalies in the work of nuclear power units.

The project involves many Soviet organisations of different industries, including the leading research institutes of the USSR Academy of Sciences, Soviet Nuclear Power Minister Nikolay Lukonin said in his opening address to the international specialised exhibition Interatomcontrol-89 in Moscow today.

The show had been organised by the USSR Ministry of Nuclear Power Industry, the USSR Ministry of the Power Industry and Electrification and the international economic association Interatomenergo.

The display features methods and means of control, diagnostics and repair designed to increase the safety and reliability of nuclear power plants, put on view by 14 Soviet organisations and 24 foreign firms, including Austria, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Finland, France, West Germany, Czechoslovakia, the United States and Japan.

The exhibition's programme will include a scientific and technological seminar which will discuss prospects of international nuclear power cooperation at one of its plenary meetings.

Interatomcontrol-89 will close on July 2.

USSR Planes Draw Interest at Le Bourget Air Show

PM2006103789 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Jun 89 First Edition p 3

[Special correspondent Colonel A. Andryushkov dispatch: "Businesslike Contacts"]

[Text] June was at its peak. The sky above Le Bourget was hot and cloudless. Flights began at dawn. The first to take off were the heavy passenger aircraft and the strategic bombers. They were followed by sports planes, led by our Su-26M piloted by Lyubov Nemkova.

The noise of propellers died away and the skies were filled with the roar of jets—the fighters, ground-attack aircraft, and deck-borne aircraft had started work. Once again Le Bourget applauded the skill of Viktor Pugachev in the Su-27 air-superiority fighter and Roman Taskayev in the MiG-29UB. Nor did the enterprising French press fail to notice the handling of the Su-25 displayed by Oleg Tsoy. Specialists have been calling the Mi-28, the details of which were provided to show visitors by Test-Pilot Gurgen Karapetyan, a "very interesting machine."

Our combat aircraft have been sharing their success with many foreign aircraft. Prominent among these are the French Rafale, which was not openly accessible, and the VTOL Harrier, the sole representative of this class of aircraft at Le Bourget.

However, spectacular displays of aircraft hardware on the ground and in the air are, so to speak, only the tip of the world aerospace iceberg. The main issues at the show are decided in the offices. There the leaders of the world's largest aircraft companies discuss questions of cooperation and examine commercial problems and the possibility of concluding mutually advantageous contracts.

"What did the 38th Le Bourget International Airshow produce that was new in this respect?" I asked A. Voynov, chief of the All-Union "Aviaeksport" Association's Advertising and Exhibitions Department.

"There is a popular opinion," Aleksandr Fedorovich replied, "that if a country displays equipment at the show that is known to be successful, it already has a bunch of contracts in its pocket. But this does not happen. Even when some people like aerospace equipment, you don't just sign a contract right away. It has to be worked out...

"The main tasks which our aerospace specialists are resolving at Le Bourget," Voynov went on, "are the following: First, they are studying development trends in world aviation, science, and technology. Second, they are trying to comprehensively demonstrate the best qualities of their aircraft and the achievements of Soviet scientific thought. And, of course, commercial questions are resolved at each show. Specialists meet for discussions which determine the conditions and opportunities for equipment purchases and sales."

The Soviet specialists at Le Bourget have been busy, each in his own area. For instance, they have interested the French side in the tiles that coat the "Buran." The French plan to use them in their nuclear industry, and in manufacturing "long-life" razor blades.

It should be noted that foreign specialists have been actively seeking contacts with us at Le Bourget.

"It is an important event!" was the message sent back to Canada by Ron Price, president and organizer of the annual Vancouver Airshow. The point being that the Canadian side sent us an official invitation to the 29th Abbotsford Airshow. The USSR first took part in it 3 years ago with two aircraft—the An-74 an the An-124. The displays by the MiG-29 fighter and the "Ruslan" at Farnborough interested the Canadians even more. And now they want to see all the types we have shown at Le Bourget.

An agreement to participate in the Canadian airshow was signed in Moscow 18 May. Ron Price received confirmation of this at Le Bourget.

I attended his talks at Le Bourget with A. Voynov. The show will be held 9-14 August this year. The Soviet aircraft types which will be on display were made clear. It is planned to display the MiG-29 and Su-27 warplanes, and the Ka-32 helicopter, which is planned to be leased to a Canadian air company. Talks are under way on the sale of two Su-26M sports aircraft and for a commercial cargo flight to and from Canada by the "Ruslan."

There has also been an official invitation from the organizers to take part in the Airspace America 90 airshow. People in the United States want to see our various aircraft. A world which has long been in the dark is in a hurry to familiarize itself and cooperate with our country in the sphere of aircraft construction and space.

To conclude this piece, I would report that yesterday at Le Bourget an official press conference for journalists was held on board an Il-96-300 airliner, at which Test-Pilot A. Kvochur of the A.I. Mikoyan Experimental Design Bureau spoke. The journalists noticed no scars on his face or body—scars which one correspondent had claimed in his newspaper to have seen. The slight scratch on the bridge of his nose does not count, Anatoliy said. Kvochur feels well and is planning to fly.

"Well done, Anatoliy," the French cosmonaut Jean-Loup Chretien said to Kvochur, giving him a friendly hug at a reception held yesterday at the Soviet Embassy. "We were amazed at your skill and the capabilities of your equipment."

Meanwhile.... Meanwhile, as the French Defense Ministry General Delegation for Armaments—which the French side tasked with investigating the circumstances of the crash—reported here that the MiG-29's display flight took place in complete accordance with the established plan, and Kvochur committed no infringements. The investigation is under way in an atmosphere of close cooperation and mutual trust, with the Soviet specialists carrying out similar work. It has become known that an analysis of the "black box" records and the study of the plane wreckage carried out with the help of specialists from the A.I. Mikoyan Experimental Design Bureau have shown that the fan blades were severely damaged, presumably by a foreign object being ingested into the engine. The investigation continues....

United States & Canada

Further on Crowe-Moiseyev 21 Jun News Conference

PM2306081389 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA
in Russian 23 Jun 89 First Edition p 3

[Captain 2d Rank V. Kocherov report: "Mutual Understanding Through Dialogue. Army General M. Moiseyev and Admiral W. Crowe News Conference for Soviet and Foreign Journalists"]

[Text] On 21 June final talks were held between Army General M.A. Moiseyev, chief of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff and USSR first deputy minister of defense, and Admiral W. Crowe, who is in the Soviet Union on an official visit.

On the same day Army General M.A. Moiseyev and Admiral W. Crowe took part in a press conference for Soviet and foreign journalists at the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center.

In his statement to journalists, Admiral W. Crowe briefly summed up the results of his stay in our country, noting that his trip was very instructive and its program highly interesting. I was able to see for myself, the U.S. guest said inter alia, what I knew in theory, namely that Soviet people and Americans are alike. Their main interest is their family, home, and children. They want a better future for their children, they want their lives to be secure and happy. They love their country. All these are sentiments that Americans understand and greatly treasure.

Soviet servicemen and U.S. servicemen also have much in common. They are competent, skilled, and well trained people. They are very patriotic, they have a good sense of humor and good personal qualities. All this I see also in our servicemen. I am taking with me to the United States good impressions of the Soviet Armed Forces. I said all this to the Soviet head of state, with whom we had a lengthy conversation.

Admiral W. Crowe and I have just had a talk with M.S. Gorbachev, Army General M.A. Moiseyev said addressing the journalists. He noted that a great deal of work had been done during the visit in the sphere of developing political dialogue between our countries' leaders, and an important document—the Agreement on the Prevention of Dangerous Military Activity—was signed. This document is in keeping with the spirit of the times, establishes new standards in mutual relations between the USSR and the U.S. Armed Forces, and serves the cause of improving Soviet-American relations and ameliorating the international situation as a whole.

During the visit, Army General M.A. Moiseyev emphasized further, questions connected with the expansion and development of Soviet-U.S. relations in the military sphere were discussed. Mutual understanding has not been reached on all points, but we have found a common language on a number of key questions. It is to be hoped that Admiral W. Crowe's visit will serve the development of trust, of which there is not yet enough, and the development of Soviet-U.S. relations, including the military sphere.

Answers were then given to journalists' questions.

[Correspondent] It was announced recently that the USSR military budget totals R77 billion. This was received with skepticism in the West. Certain Western experts have declared that they do not believe this figure. What is your attitude?

[Crowe] I believe that it is necessary when comparing our budgets to compare currencies. It makes no sense to believe in some kind of deliberate concealment of facts. We can check out these facts, and it seems obvious that we must carry out a comparison of the currencies. Therefore I do not think that it is possible to just somehow reconcile these figures. There are certain inaccuracies, of course, perhaps in the calculations. We have discussed them. In any case we have tried to account for these differences.

[Moiseyev] I would like to clarify: Our state's defense budget totals R77.8 billion. We understand that the reactions to this figure have been mixed. But everything has to be taken into account. A modern Soviet Su-25 aircraft costs R5.8 million whereas an F-16 costs $28 million; R77.8 billion is in fact our entire defense budget.

[Correspondent] A Western military expert has said that the Soviet leadership is talking a great deal about a defensive strategy but doing little in this respect. Is this true?

[Crowe] A great many people on hearing political statements of any kind are ready to look out of the window and say: We see no evidence of this in real life. I am familiar with the Soviet leadership statements. Changes take time, and I hope that ultimately we will be able to see them. The United States is following these changes closely. They are of great interest to us. I, as a professional, understand that these are very complex changes and I do not think that they can be effected overnight.

[Moiseyev] Some people are trying to claim that the reduction of our Armed Forces by 500,000 is just the Soviet Union's latest propaganda trick. However, these are concrete facts. The Soviet Union has already withdrawn 3,000 tanks, more than 22,000 servicemen, around 600 artillery pieces, and 50 aircraft and other military hardware from the groups of forces.

We are giving a defensive slant to our motorized rifle and tank divisions. What does this mean? We have eliminated tank regiments from the motorized rifle divisions and we have reduced the number of tanks in tank divisions by 40 percent. We have also pledged unilaterally to decrease our nuclear potential in Europe by 500 nuclear munitions. At present NATO has 4,000 nuclear munitions in Europe against the Warsaw Pact's 2,500. After the reduction the Warsaw Pact will retain 2,000. That is a ratio of 2 to 1 in favor of NATO.

Other questions were answered.

TASS Cites ABC TV Interview With Adm Crowe

LD2206113189 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0640 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] New York, 22 Jun (TASS)—The atmosphere in which discussions of various problems in relations between the United States and the Soviet Union are now conducted has considerably changed for the better, Admiral William Crowe, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, stated in an interview for ABC Television. He has been in the USSR on an official visit, and was recieved on Wednesday [21 June] by M.S. Gorbachev, who, as the admiral said, made "a strong impression" on him.

Replying to a question whether distrust has been reduced in relations between the two countries thanks to his visit and other similar visits, Crowe said "I think so, yes. That does not mean we have no disagreements. We discuss them. But it seems to me that the atmosphere in which these discussions take place, when the causes of our failure to understand one another are determined and there is an exchange of opinions, has changed strongly for the better."

Sharing his impressions of his visit to the Northern Fleet, the Admiral noted: "I spent a wonderful day on the northern seas, looked around a nuclear submarine in dry dock, visited the cruiser 'Kirov'—a very modern ship—and observed missile launchings at sea. Ten, no, even 5 years ago I would not even have been able to imagine that I would be in such a situation."

U.S.-USSR Meetings on Mideast Held 15-16 Jun

LD1806203289 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1640 GMT 18 Jun 89

[Text] Washington, 18 Jun (TASS)—Soviet-U.S. consultations on the Near East were held in the U.S. State Department on 15-16 June. The group of Soviet experts was headed by V.P. Polyakov, member of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs Collegium, and G.P. Tarasov, aide to the minister and special representative on Near East affairs. The group of U.S. experts was headed by D. Ross, director of Policy Planning Staff of the U.S. State Department, and J. Kelvin, assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs.

During the consultations there was a detailed exchange of views covering a broad spectrum on the regional theme. Matters relating to the achievement of an all-embracing settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict were a topic for priority attention and specific ways of launching a process of settlement were considered in depth. As well as this, there was discussion of the situation in Lebanon, the Iranian-Iraqi settlement, the problem of regional security, and Soviet-U.S. interaction in respect of the Near East. Both sides assessed the consultations as useful.

An understanding was reached on continuing and intensifying the Soviet-U.S. dialogue on the Near East.

U.S. Senator Levin Cited on Defense Proposals

PM2106112589 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Jun 89 First Edition p 5

[L. Kuznetsov "Rejoinder": "Two More 'Tigers'?"]

[Text] Carl Levin, member of the U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee, recently made a statement which certain journalists categorized as "old hash": He said nothing new. Indeed, others of his colleagues had already spoken about a reduction in the number of U.S. soldiers in South Korea (it was with this that the senator began). But the point is that the first part of the statement (really "old hash") played the role of a garnish for another "dish"—C. Levin went on to urge President Bush to persuade Japan to pick up the entire financial burden of maintaining U.S. troops in the land of the rising sun. And here, as though in passing, he added: Let Japan also cover part of the cost of maintaining U.S. military bases in South Korea and the Philippines.

Just that. But this last part cannot fail to arouse a pained reaction precisely in the Philippines. Because, first, the statement by a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee cancels out the promises made earlier by Washington officials to consider plans to "pare down the bases in the Philippines." Second, C. Levin has thereby demonstrated that the Pentagon intends to consolidate its military presence on the archipelago still further. This time with the help of Japan and (in the event that the plan is implemented) South Korea. So whereas today Philippine citizens are having to fight just one "tiger"—that is, the United States—in their demand for the bases' removal, if Tokyo accepts C. Levin's proposal they will then have to oppose "three tigers."

This is one more example of the way "tigers"—that is, the Pentagon's dangerous new plans—are concealed behind what are, at first sight, sensible proposals to reduce armed forces in individual regions.

U.S. Senators, Others Participate in Moscow Forum

PM2106100989 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Jun 89 Morning Edition p 4

[Report by M. Kozhukhov: "Philosophers Meet in Moscow"]

[Text] "Understanding the values of Western civilization" was the formulation of the subject of the Soviet-U.S. meeting which opened in Moscow in the conference hall of the all-union "Kinotsentr" association on Krasnaya Presnya.

"I am pleased with restructuring because it will make Soviet people freer, happier, and richer. The world will gain from it and that means that ultimately I, too, will gain. Of course, the process of changes begun in your country will be difficult, there will be both winners in it and losers—those whom restructuring deprives of power and who have every reason to oppose it. I am nonetheless convinced they will be defeated because it is well known that there is nothing stronger than ideas whose time has come...."

These are the words of one of the participants in the meeting which has opened, philosopher and Senator Philip Gramm. To these words we can add that not only has the time come for new ideas of our own, the time has also come for the exchange of ideas. Including those whose inaccessibility to the broad public in our country was still recently guarded by detailed registers in "special library stores...." The aim of the present Soviet-U.S. meeting of scientists is the free exchange of ideas. Its initiators were the center for scientific and technical activity, research, and social initiatives public organization recently formed under the USSR Academy of Sciences and the USSR Philosophical Society.

The list of U.S. participants in the seminar is not traditional: For instance, it includes Senator Robert Kasten, one of the ideologists of the Republican Party platform at the recent U.S. presidential elections, Norman Podhoretz, chief editor of the conservative journal COMMENTARY, the sculptor and philosopher Ernst Neizvestnyy, politicians, scientists, theologians, and U.S. university professors. The names of some of these people used to be categorized as "fierce anti-Soviets" and "transatlantic hawks," and today they are guests of Moscow. Taking part in the discussions on the Soviet side are eminent scientists and Academicians Ye. Velikhov, V. Kudryavtsev, and I. Frolov.

The subjects selected for discussion at this forum are varied: The U.S. view of the "cold war," the correlation between freedom and culture in a democratic society, difficulties of economic reforms in our country. As one U.S. participant admitted, even the most optimistic of them were convinced that they would be immediately expelled from the USSR as soon as the subjects of their reports were known. Of course, that did not happen. Proclaiming the priority of general human values over all others, today we are readier than ever for the cooperation in the field of ideas which has taken over from the dispute about whose democracy was more perfect—a dispute of which everyone was tired. And even if the truth is not born in the discussions which have opened in Moscow, something no less important will take place—one more step will be taken toward mutual understanding. And it must be supposed that the benefit from that will also be mutual.

U.S. Ambassador Walters Addresses Seminar in Bonn

LD2006123989 Hamburg DPA in German 1204 GMT 20 Jun 89

[Text] Tutzing (DPA)—The United States is prepared to give stronger economic support to the Soviet Union provided democratization makes progress in the East. Vernon A. Walters, the U.S. ambassador to the FRG, said on Tuesday at the Fourth International Tutzing Colloquium of the Evangelical Academy that an economy based on free competition is the key to a better society. Only a rich and prosperous people will "not get mixed up in any political or military adventure." The East, Walters said at his first public appearance in Bavaria, will have to convince the West, however, that changes will be lasting and permanent.

Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Fedorovich Petrovskiy said at the colloquium, held under the motto "New Opportunities for Joint Action—Peace, Justice and Mankind's Survival"—that from now on there should no longer be any ideological war in intergovernmental relations. "The rightness of an ideology cannot be implemented by force of arms." Self-critically he admitted that in the past the Soviet Union had "gone too far" in confrontation with other states. From now on one should move from "crisis diplomacy" to "preventation diplomacy."

Medvedev Receives CBS Management Delegation

LD2206090589 Moscow TASS in English 2118 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow June 22 TASS—Vadim Medvedev, a Politburo member and secretary of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party, has received a delegation of managers of the U.S. CBS news television network led by its president D. Berk.

The head of one of the largest U.S. television networks told about keen interest shown by U.S. television viewers in perestroika processes in the USSR. Berk noted that the American society is becoming increasingly aware of the need to further boost objective information about life in the USSR, and spoke out for fostering both sides' constructive interaction in this direction.

Medvedev told about transformations in all areas of the political, economic and social life in the country and the results of the Congress of USSR People's Deputies. The guests from the United States received answers to questions on a further increase in glasnost and the operation of Soviet news media. The sides exchanged views on ways to expand cooperation in the information exchange between Soviet television and the CBS news.

Commentator Discusses U.S. Aid to Afghanistan

LD1506230389 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 15 Jun 89

[Text] In one of its programs, the American NBC television network reported forthcoming deliveries to the Afghan opposition of large-scale military and civilian cargoes. As was stated in the report, the television company received this information through its contacts among American intelligence officials according to thier figures, the overall volume of this aid will amount to $100 million. Here at the microphone is commentator Aleksandr Malikov.

[Malikov] Details of what kinds of goods the United States is intending to dispatch to the Afghan opposition are not yet known. But, alas, a matter of concern is the word military, which can signify armaments, ammunition or any other equipment needed for a continuation of combat actions. If this is so, it is a sign that in practice no radical reassessment of American policy towards Afghanistan is taking place.

It is said that continuity is regarded as a virtue among diplomats, but one can scarcely view from such a standpoint continuity in the American administration's course of attempting to solve the Afghan problem on the battlefield and not at the negotiating table. True, during last week's visit to Washington by Bhutto, the Pakistan prime minister, there was a signal from there of a readiness to also consider the political possibilities of a settlement, but once again on American and Pakistani terms that in point of fact alienate the other sides involved in a settlement. In an interview with THE WASHINGTON POST, Bhutto, for instance, let it be understood quite clearly that her idea of a political settlement excludes the participation of Najibullah and the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan that he heads. U.S. Secretary of State Baker spoke in roughly the same vein.

Now today a spokesman of Pakistan's Foreign Ministry has proposed the setting up of a neutral cabinet for a short period of time so that it can serve as a bridge for the transfer of power to none other than that same interim transitional government. As they say, by hook or by crook Washington and Islamabad are seeking to place thier proteges in Kabul. From the ideas that they are putting forward, and which cannot even be called diplomatic initiatives, one could get the false impression that military and politically it is not the opposition that is pressed up against the wall but indeed Najibullah's government, and that like a chess player who has run out of time, it only has one way out—to stop the clock. In actual fact everything is, to put it mildly, not like that at all.

Even opposition field commanders are now frankly saying that the ambitious plans to seize large Afghan cities, wage effective trench warfare, and put psychological pressure on the government forces are all an almost impossible task. In this assessment, there is more sobriety of judgement than scepticism of failures. The impossibility of solving Afghan problems through military means is obvious. This is why the call by Najibullah, the Afghan president, to the protectors of the Afghan opposition to prove their sincerity and put forward concrete proposals directed at ending the war in Afghanistan is so timely. In his view, the only practical and realistic solution for an end to the war is negotiations among all the sides and the formation of a coalition government. All other paths can only lead the cause of a settlement into yet another impasse.

Journalist Talks About CIA Kidnappings in Book

PM2106132789 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 20 Jun 89 p 3

[APN correspondent A. Ignatov report: "Journalist Oleg Bitov, Who Was Kidnapped by Western Special Services and Succeeded in Returning Home, Reports on His Protracted Business Trip in His Book"]

[Text] People say that the proof of the pudding is only in the eating. But what is to be done if this is yesterday's unappetizing pudding made by a slovenly wife? I am afraid that there is no other solution than to try it in order to investigate.

That is roughly how things stand with the subject raised in journalist Oleg Bitov's book "A Year-Long Movie Festival. Report on a Protracted Business Trip," which has just been published in Moscow at the APN publishing house. The author's name was plastered over the world's press 5 years ago. Sent by LITERATURNAYA GAZETA on assignment to the Venice movie festival, he disappeared in September 1983. His colleagues initiated a campaign to look for the journalist, who turned up...in Britain.

At a noisy news conference and in a series of reports in LITERATURNAYA GAZETA Bitov recounted some of the details of his involuntary adventure. After being kidnapped in Italy by the special services—most likely the U.S. special services—as a "KGB agent," he was transferred to London. Dosed with psychotropic medicines, he was then subjected to mental "brainwashing," despite the fact that the "professionals" soon realized their mistake.

The victim's memoirs are being read today as an unfortunate whodunit relating to a recent time which has apparently become a thing of the past. Only a few years have elapsed but during that time there has been a change of era. Was it necessary to stir up the past? The author himself considers the main point of the book to be the reminder that a special program for kidnapping Soviet citizens was once adopted deep within the U.S. CIA. In his memoirs he cites the names of people who, like him, fell victim to the kidnappers.

They are diplomat V.S. Yurchenko (he disappeared fall 1985 in Italy); V.I. Ivanov, a staffer at the Ministry of Foreign Trade (spring 1985, Manila); businessman V.N. Shuvalov (1985, FRG); V.V. Aleksandrov, scientist and physicist (spring 1985, Spain); diplomat A. Bogaty (1982, Morocco); diplomat V. Kuzichkin (1982, Iran);

journalist V. Ivanov (1984, Austria); and diplomat S. Bokhan (1985, Greece).... The first three have succeeded in returning home. But what fate did the others suffer?

U.S. Students Travel to Urals on 'Raft Project'

LD2006191189 Moscow TASS in English 1807 GMT 20 Jun 89

[Text] Perm June 20 TASS—Spots where American tourists were not allowed are quickly disappearing from the map of the USSR. A group of young Americans from California were airlifted by (?helicopters) today to the [words indistinct] Vishera River in the North Urals. They were the first foreign tourists to visit the Ural Mountain chain which separates the European and the Asian parts of the Soviet Union. The region used to be closed to foreign visitors until recently.

What took the American university and college students aged between 17 and 22 so far away from home? It was the RAFT-SPLAV Project offering a two-week stay in the Soviet Union with their Soviet counterparts. The lovers of river adventures from the two countries will travel down the Vishera and Kama rivers in sporting boats, on rafts and on board a river motor ship. They expect not only to brave the water currents and whirlpools and enjoy the sights of pristine nature but also to meet local young people, hold friendship gatherings and get to know the way Soviet people live.

On June 21, the expedition members will set up a commemorative sign in honor of friendship between our two nations on a mountain top on the border between Europe and Asia, and adopt a joint appeal for liquidating the threat of nuclear war.

"It is for me a great honor to be a member of the first group of American tourists in the Urals," said Michael Grand, Project RAFT guide. "In overcoming the rapids and other obstacles in our way we shall also be tearing down the political barriers which divide us and looking for ways toward mutual trust and understanding."

"A form of people's democracy," was how the trip was described by Niklay Trubnikov, Soviet co-leader of the trip, head of the Eurasia Youth Tourist and Technical Center in the city of Perm. The trip is scheduled to wind up in this city with a population of one million. The project's name is symbolic as it is an anagram of the mottoes of the Soviet and American tourists, RAFT stands for "Russians and Americans for Friendly Tours," and SPLAV is made up of the first letters of the Russian phrase meaning "Joint Trips Are the Best Alternative to War."

Next year the young people from the Urals are planning to pay a return visit to the United States for a trip down the Colorado River.

China

PRC Officials Cited on Beijing Situation

PM2006112189 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Jun 89 Morning Edition p 4

[Dispatch by own correspondent Yu. Savenkov: "China: "Political Reform Is Essential"; final paragraph is IZVESTIYA report on UPI report]

[Text] Beijing—Beijing is slowly getting its breath back. The students have left Tiananmen Square but soldiers and military patrols still stand around its entire perimeter.

In the city now this is a detail of life like the old men in the morning "walking" their feathered pets in cages shrouded in blue covers. Television is now longer reporting so frequently the municipal government's stern notifications about the halting of riots or the banning of organizations created during the student disturbances.

Nonetheless the outward calm on the streets does not eliminate the poignancy or anxiety. Everyone wants to understand why martial law was in fact first announced and then introduced in Beijing. Were the disorders in the capital serious enough to be described as a counterrevolutionary rebellion? Why was the dialogue on the point of beginning between the country's leaders and the students interrupted? Will consultations be resumed with various strata of society as part of the political reform without which the steps of the economic reform are inconceivable?

At a conference of party and government leading cadres recently PRC State Council Premier Li Peng assessed the situation as follows: "Our task is to restore order and to deal a merciless blow to the counterrevolutionary rebels." He also formulated the main economic tasks: The stabilization of prices, the struggle for a good harvest, the reduction of investments in capital construction, control over the consumption fund, stimulation of production, and a regime of thrift. The newspaper RENMIN RIBAO cites the words of Qiao Shi, a member of the CPC Central Committee Politburo Standing Committee: "Efforts will be made to develop socialist democracy and improve the legal system." He also noted that dialogue and consultations with social groups at various levels will help the party and government to improve their work.

Central television has broadcast an exclusive interview with PRC State Council spokesman Yuan Mu given to NBC's Tom Brokaw. Answering the question of whether Zhao Ziyang had been removed from his post as CPC Central Committee general secretary, Yuan Mu said that Deng Xiaoping's recent meeting with the command of the troops to enforce martial law shows the whole world that the Chinese leadership is stable. It is true that someone in the top leadership wrongly supported the rebellion. That will soon be made public. Answering the question of whether Zhao Ziyang would be put on trial, Yuan Mu said that this was an internal party problem and would be resolved in accordance with the party rules.

Assessing the young people's demonstrations which began in April, the State Council spokesman said that initially they were right in their hopes that the party and government would put an end to corruption and would improve democracy and the legal system and deepen reform.

Yuan Mu: "We never considered the broad masses of students to be rebels, but it is a fact that there were rebels among the students." In Yuan Mu's view it is important that the counterrevolutionary rebels mingled with the students and advanced slogans calling for the overthrow of the communist party leadership. These slogans differ from the students' demands for freedom and democracy at the early stages. The government, Yuan Mu stressed, is treating with attention the students' proposals put forward during the demonstration.

Touching on the death sentence passed on three violators in Shanghai (they were accused of harming railroad stock, setting fire to police motorcycles, and hindering the firemen in putting out the fire), Yuan Mu said: Their crimes were terrible. In the next few months a small group of such people will also be "punished for their crimes." Reports are circulating throughout the world of the bloody events played out on Tiananmen Square, when the Chinese People's Liberation Army troops went there, Yuan Mu continued. These reports are unfounded. The students who had been on the square until then left it in serried ranks, holding placards aloft. "I do not want to say," Yuan Mu stated, "that there were no casualties during the efforts to suppress the rebellion, I assert that no one died when the troops were clearing Tiananmen Square."

Yuan Mu also stated that the Army displayed the utmost restraint and therefore suffered more than anyone in the process of suppressing the rebellion. Bystanders were killed and wounded, Yuan Mu said. We grieve over that. But we feel particular grief for the dead servicemen of the Chinese People's Liberation Army who suppressed the counterrevolutionary rebellion. [Savenkov dispatch ends]

A UPI correspondent reports that a further eight people who took part in the counterrevolutionary rebellion in Beijing were sentenced to death on Saturday [17 Jun]. The sentence, the official XINHUA agency reported, was passed by the capital's people's court. All eight were charged with setting fire to military transport facilities, slaughtering soldiers and officers of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, and looting military materiel. According to UPI, citing information from central radio, about 200 guns and tens of thousands of rounds of ammunition were confiscated from the rebels.

Political Observer Views Economic Ties With PRC

PM2106074589 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
17 Jun 89 Second Edition p 4

[PRAVDA political observer Vsevolod Ovchinnikov article under the rubric "After the Beijing Summit": "In Neighborly and Mutually Advantageous Fashion"]

[Text] The Beijing summit opened up a new chapter in the annals of Soviet-Chinese relations. Following their normalization prime attention is being given to the task of expanding the base of constructive cooperation which would promote restructuring in the USSR and the reforms in China. Trade, economic, scientific, and technical ties are becoming the core of bilateral relations under these conditions. "The Soviet Union and China," the Beijing summit participants recorded in the joint communique, "will actively develop in a planned fashion mutual ties in the economic, trade, scientific, technical, cultural, and other spheres on the basis of equality and mutual advantage."

At first glance, things look fine. Trade turnover between our countries has risen tenfold since the early eighties and last year amounted to R1.85 billion, or around $3 billion. However, by the modern standards of world trade this figure is by no means impressive. Particularly against the background of the integration processes taking place in the world, the deepening international division of labor, and the rapid development of cooperative ties. And the above indicator is by no means satisfactory for two neighboring states with a long common border and enormous resources.

In the 10 years of reforms China has quintupled its foreign trade turnover—last year it surpassed $100 billion for the first time. However, trade with the Soviet Union accounts for just 3 percent of this sum, whereas trade with the United States accounts for 13 percent, and trade with Japan 20 percent.

It turns out that our achievements are still far below our potential. All the more so as the structure of Soviet-Chinese trade bespeaks the mutually advantageous and complementary nature of the two countries' economies. Approximately half of all exports from the USSR are made up of machinery and equipment—above all equipment for power engineering and transportation, which are now the "stumbling block" in the Chinese economy. China willingly buys power units from us for heat and electric power stations, as well as petroleum products, rolled metal, timber, and fertilizers. We in turn buy from China nonferrous metal ores, hundreds of thousands of car batteries, soybeans, corn, meat products, tea, and consumer goods.

The opportunities for mutually advantageous exchange have by no means been exhausted. However, by itself building up trade turnover does not promise any fundamental improvements in Soviet-Chinese trade. Its extensive development is not infinite. New forms of trade, economic, scientific, and technical cooperation are far more promising—in particular, the transition to direct ties between enterprises, design bureaus, and scientific research institutes, as well as the creation of joint production facilities.

Agriculture, the light and food industries, and the most modern spheres of research and development in leading-edge technologies could become spheres of cooperation along with such traditional spheres as power engineering, metallurgy, and transportation. For instance, the construction of oil pipelines is considered one of the most promising avenues in the development of power engineering.

Decentralization is a typical feature of trade and economic ties between the USSR and the PRC. These will by no means be limited to the framework of intergovernmental agreements. Interregional cooperation will grow substantially, as will ties between cities and cross-border trade.

The role of the geographic factor has recently emerged in bilateral economic ties. For us in connection with the need to accelerate the development of the Far East. For the Chinese in connection with the fact that the policy of reforms and openness is having an unequal impact on different regions. Its fruits have been enjoyed above all by the maritime provinces in the east and south of the country, where there are five special economic zones and 14 open cities. But remote regions, sensing their isolation from the seaboard, have reevaluated the potential advantages of being close neighbors of the Soviet Union.

This creates favorable conditions for interregional cooperation. Natural partners for such ties could be, for instance, the krays and oblasts of the Soviet Far East and Siberia on the one hand, and the provinces of northeastern China on the other. Second, Kazakhstan and the republics of Soviet Central Asia on the one hand, and the provinces and autonomous regions of northwest China on the other.

The setting up of joint ventures and production facilities, not least with the participation of other countries, could become a new form of economic collaboration. Chinese specialists consider the idea of regional cooperation in northeast Asia to be very promising. They cite China, the USSR, Japan, and North and South Korea as possible participants. The idea is that Soviet natural resources will be developed using labor from the PRC and the DPRK, and capital and technology from Japan and South Korea.

At a meeting with representatives of the Chinese public M.S. Gorbachev recalled that the USSR is examining the question of the creation of joint enterprise zones, not least in regions bordering the PRC. The words spoken in Beijing have had a wide-ranging impact in Tokyo, too. As the newspaper NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN wrote, leading Japanese trading companies want to get involved in such deals and act as middlemen in the opening up of special economic zones and in the setting up of joint ventures with Soviet, Chinese, and Japanese participation. Nissho Iwai, a major trading company, has set up a department to specially handle multilateral cooperation in the region.

The other northwestern zone of interregional cooperation could also play a role that goes beyond the framework of bilateral Soviet-Chinese relations. Beijing believes that, since the center of world business activity is shifting from the Atlantic to the Pacific basin, there will be a substantial increase in European interest in Asia in the nineties, and economic collaboration between the two continents will grow. The new forms of cooperation between China and the Soviet Union could play an immense role in this respect. Our countries are facing the prospect of becoming, as it were, the legs of the bridge between Europe and Asia, between the Atlantic and the Pacific.

And these are no longer dreams, but plans which are starting to be implemented. Moscow has granted Beijing a loan for the construction of the Wusu-Alashankou railroad in Xinjiang Province. Then the track that starts in the Chinese port of Lianyungang will stretch through Xian and Urumchi to Alma-Ata. Linking the two countries' transport networks, it will become the shortest route from China to Europe—like the great silk road of yore.

As the Soviet leader stressed in Beijing, we also view the expansion and deepening of Soviet-Chinese trade and economic ties from the standpoint of the incipient process of pan-Asian economic integration. The normalization of Soviet-PRC relations promotes military detente in Asia. And this in turn will not only strengthen security, but will increase the opportunities for mutually advantageous cooperation. For instance, the conversion of just one military plant could substantially expand the base for Soviet economic cooperation with the Asia-Pacific countries. The development of the Soviet Far East is geared not only to the all-union division of labor, but also to involvement in economic ties in the Asia-Pacific region.

Wishing to be a constructive partner in regional affairs, the Soviet Union is interested, as is China, in taking part in the activities of the Pacific Economic Cooperation Conference. Striving to improve the conditions for this, the USSR is restructuring the system of its foreign economic ties, expanding the rights of regions, cities, and enterprises, and stepping up the activity of public organizations such as the Chamber of Trade and Industry and the Soviet National Committee for Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation.

The shaping of new relations in the Asia-Pacific region will be a long and complex process. The normalization of Soviet-Chinese relations and the development on that basis of trade and economic links between our countries are likely to provide a spur to these healthy trends.

Near East & South Asia

Iran's Hashemi-Rafsanjani Continues Visit to USSR

Joint Communique Issued

LD2306120189 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 23 Jun 89

[Text] At the end of the official visit to the USSR by Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly and acting commander in chief of the Armed Forces, the two countries simultaneously issued a joint official communique in Tehran and Moscow today [23 Jun], which emphasized the great importance which the two countries attach to their comprehensive relations and to the holding of talks at the highest levels, and which announced the signing of the declaration on the principles of cooperation and friendly relations, and the long-term program of economic, commercial, scientific, and technical cooperation between Iran and the Soviet Union until the year 2000.

The text of the communique is as follows:

At the invitation of His Excellency Mr Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, His Excellency Mr Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly and acting commander in chief of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, at the head of a high-ranking delegation, paid an official and friendly visit to the USSR from 20 to 23 June 1989. During his stay in the USSR, His Excellency Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani and his delegation also visited Leningrad and Baku, in addition to Moscow, and inspected a number of scientific, cultural, and Islamic centers and organizations, as well as scientific installations.

Throughout the course of the visit, warm sentiments which were examples of the friendly sentiments and feelings of the Soviet people toward the Iranian people were expressed. In Moscow, several rounds of talks between His Excellency Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani and His Excellency Mr Gorbachev were held in an atmosphere of mutual understanding, and discussions were held regarding Iranian-Soviet relations, and regional and international issues of interest to both sides. Simultaneously, working discussions were conducted between other officials from the two countries.

Current relations between Iran and the Soviet Union and their future outlook on the basis of agreements which were reached between Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani and Mr Gorbachev were carefully studied in the course of discussions between the foreign miniisters of the two countries, Mr Dr Velayati and Mr Shevardnadze.

During this visit, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani and Mr Gorbachev signed a declaration on the principles of friendly relations and cooperation between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and a long-term program for economic, commercial, scientific, and technical cooperations until the year 2000.

A commercial agreement and an agreement for the construction of a railway line were signed at the level of ministers from the two sides. These agreements were signed by Mr Mohammad Javad Iravani, minister of economic and finance, on behalf of Iran, and by Mr K. Katushev, minister of foreign economic relations, and Mr N.S. Konarev, minister of railways, on behalf of the Soviet Union.

Within the framework of this visit, a memorandum of understanding was also signed by the two sides on consular affairs.

The two sides believe that exchanges of views on Iranian-Soviet relations are useful and constructive and in the interests of the sovereignty and the wishes of the peoples of the two countries. These assist peace and stability in the region and in the world.

The two sides announced that the Islamic Republic of Iran and the USSR will expand their good-neighborly relations on the basis of equality, safeguarding complete independence, mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, non-interference in internal affairs, and promotion of mutual interests and the rejection of any kind of domination or subjection.

On the basis of these principles, the two sides will expand their long-term economic, scientific, technical, and commercial relations and other desired cooperation, especially issues connected with cooperation in the field of hygiene and the exchange of professors and students on a planned and committed basis.

The two sides agreed to make efforts to promote an understanding of the cultural and spiritual values of the two countries, and a better acquaintance of the Iranian and Soviet people, of their life, culture, religious beliefs, customs, and manners, through the exchange of scientific, cultural, and religious delegations and popular contacts.

The two sides agreed that the border between the two countries should be called a border of friendship and cooperation. The solution of disputes between Iran and Iraq were discussed in detail in the talks between Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani and Mr Gorbachev, and the two sides, while paying full attention to the course of the talks regarding total implementation of resolution 598, under the supervision and endeavors of the UN secretary general, called for the implementation of that resolution. In this connection, the two sides expressed their support for the four-point plan of the UN secretary general, dated 1 October 1988, for speeding up the implementation of resolution 598.

The two countries believe that the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean should be changed into a region of peace and stability, free from all weapons of genocide, including nuclear and chemical weapons; and that, initially, all foreign military fleets should leave the region, and that security and stability of the region should be provided by the littoral states.

Emphasizing the legitimate rights of the Afghan nation and that country's Islamic identity and history, the two sides agreed on safeguarding the territorial integrity and rights of the people of that country to determine their fate without foreign interference. The two sides also announced their support for an independent, nonaligned, and Islamic Afghanistan which has friendly relations with its neighbors.

While expressing their full support for the just struggles and the uprising of the Palestinian nation in the Palestinian territory, and while condemning all the oppressive measures against the Palestinian nation, the two sides support the achievement of their inalienable right to determine their fate.

While supporting the just struggles of the Lebanese nation for the immediate withdrawal of occupying forces from the south of that country, the two sides stress the need to safeguard the territorial integrity, independence, national sovereignty, and the enforcement of the political will of the Lebanese people.

While condemning apartheid and racism in all forms, the two sides support the struggles of the people of Namibia and South Africa to achieve independence and freedom, and stress the importance of the efforts of the United Nations Organization toward decolonization and the principles of the independence of Namibia.

The two sides agree that the Nonaligned Movement as an important factor in international politics should expand and continue its basic role and participation in the solution of international problems.

Iran and the Soviet Union call for the strengthening of the United Nations Organization and its more active and more constructive role in international affairs and in solving regional disputes.

The two sides described as worrying the present economic situation existing in the world and, above all, the use of various levers of pressure against the developing countries. They stressed the need to eliminate any discriminatory action in international economic relations, to reduce the existing gap between the north and the south, and to prevent the use of commercial and economic levers of pressure, contrary to international norms, in the service of political aims.

Iran and the Soviet Union attach great importance to their all-around relations and to holding talks at the highest levels, and emphasize the need for their continuation in the future.

In this connection, while thanking for the sincere hospitality of the leadership and the people of the USSR, His Excellency Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani invited His Excellency Mr Gorbachev to pay an official visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran. The Soviet side accepted the invitation with gratitude.

Comparison of Soviet-Iranian Declaration

PM2306092789

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 23 June publishes in its Second Edition on pages 1-2 the "Declaration on Principles of Relations and Friendly Cooperation Between the USSR and the Islamic Republic of Iran." Comparison of the PRAVDA item with the translation of the Moscow TASS International Service in Russian version published on pages 23-24 of the 22 June Soviet Union DAILY REPORT reveals the following variations:

page 23, the PRAVDA version does not contain the introductory first paragraph;

page 24, column one, first paragraph, sole sentence of the PRAVDA version reads: ...mutual interest in the greatest strengthening of good-neighborliness and... (supplying alternative wording);

penultimate paragraph, only sentence of the PRAVDA version reads: ...in any form.

6. Acting within the... (adding "6.");

column two, first paragraph, only sentence of the PRAVDA version reads: ...for mass destruction—and through their destruction.

The sides are firmly convinced... (supplying alternative wording, supplying PRAVDA rendering of indistinctly received TASS passage).

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Arrives in Leningrad

PM2306105189 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
23 Jun 89 Second Edition p 1

[TASS report under the general heading: "Visit Continues"]

[Text] In the afternoon [22 June] 'A.A. Hashemi-Rafsanjani [speaker of the Iranian Majlis] arrived in Leningrad. He was received at the city soviet executive committee. The guest was told about the city, its industrial, scientific, and cultural potential, and the development of agriculture in Leningrad Oblast, and about how foreign economic ties are implemented with foreign partners.

The Iranian leader declared that M.S. Gorbachev has opened the way to broad international cooperation by his bold reforms. The further development of Iranian-Soviet relations will play a positive role in the two countries' dialogue, he said.

In Victory Square 'A.A. Hashemi-Rafsanjani viewed the monument to the city's heroic defenders and laid flowers.

Departs Leningrad for Baku 23 Jun

LD2306105489 Moscow TASS in English 1024 GMT 23 Jun 89

[Text] Leningrad June 23 TASS—The Iranian leader's official visit to the Soviet Union will open a new page in relations between this country and the Islamic Republic of Iran, both sides stated at a reception staged by the Leningrad city council on the occasion of 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani's stay here.

Vladimir Khodyrev, chairman of the city council, said in his greeting remarks that "the Soviet Union and Iran are neighbours. Our relations go deep in history. The signing of Soviet-Iranian documents on principles of mutual relations will undoubtedly give a fresh impetus to the revival of relations of trust and friendship."

The speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly and acting commander-in-chief of the Iranian Armed Forces said that the USSR's new political thinking and perestroika mean much not only for the Soviet people, but also for all of mankind.

"The agreements reached on economic and trade cooperation," he observed, "meet the interests of both peoples."

The Iranian leader thanked Leningraders for the warm hospitality.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani visited Leningrad's main mosque seating three thousand worshippers. Scaffolding has just been removed from its minarets, revealing the turquoise beauty of the magnificent monument of Arab architecture.

The Iranian visitor, continuing his tour of the country, left today for Baku, the capital of Soviet Azerbaijan.

Arrives in Baku

AU2306105189 Paris AFP in English 1022 GMT 23 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow, June 23 (AFP)—Iranian parliamentary speaker 'Ali Akbar Rafsanjani arrived Friday in Baku, the Azerbaijani capital, for a day-long visit in which he would meet the republic's religious and political leaders, foreign ministry sources in Baku said.

The majority of the seven-million strong population of Azerbaijan, lying on the border with Iran, are Shia Moslems as in Iran. During inter-ethnic violence between the Christian Armenians and Moslem Azerbaijan at the end of last year, Azeri demonstrators in central Baku brandished portraits of the Ayatollah Khomeyni, who died earlier this month.

Mr. Rafsanjani was expected to attend Friday prayers at the Baku mosque, where he would hold talks with religious leaders. He was also to meet with Azerbaijan Communist party leader Abdul-Rakhman Vezirov, the Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

The Iranian official arrived in Baku from Leningrad, where he toured the city and visited the mosque. The sources in Baku said that Mr. Rafsanjani would leave directly for home from Azerbaijan.

Comparison of Shevardnadze-Velayati Talks

PM2206135589

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 22 June publishes in its Second Edition on page 4 a TASS report on the talks between Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze and Iranian Foreign Minister Velayati. Comparison of the PRAVDA item, entitled "In a Constructive Spirit," with the Moscow TASS English version published on page 20 of the 21 June Soviet Union DAILY REPORT reveals the following variations:

page 20, the PRAVDA version does not carry a dateline;

same page, column one, first paragraph, sole sentence of the PRAVDA version reads: ...Eduard Shevardnadze met 21 June with 'Ali Akbar Velayati, who is accompanying 'A.A. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, chairman of the Islamic Council Assembly and acting supreme commander in chief of the Iranian Armed Forces, on an official visit to the Soviet Union.

During their meeting... (substituting "21 June" for "today," adding passage);

paragraph two, last sentence of the PRAVDA version reads: ...two countries and bolstering good-neighborly relations, strengthening... (supplying alternative wording);

column two, first paragraph, sole sentence of the PRAVDA version reads: ...by the geographic proximity of the two... (substituting "proximity" for "position").

Positive Trend in Relations With Iran Viewed

NC2206221289 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Persian to Iran 1530 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Talks have taken place between Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and Iranian guest 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of Majlis.

Some Western analysts conclude that official reports and documents exchanged between the two countries show that not everything is smooth in Soviet-Iranian relations and that the two sides allegedly are so far apart ideologically that true good-neighborly relations between them are not very probable.

One cannot agree with the point of view that Moscow and Tehran are allegedly trying to cover up the realities. [Words indistinct] can be seen during Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani's talks in the Soviet capital when the positions of the two sides were either close or identical. However, [words indistinct].

During his talks with the high-ranking Iranian guest, Mikhail Gorbachev especially stressed that relations between the Soviet Union and Iran were not always good in the past. We think that the Soviet Union cannot be blamed for this. The fact is that certain circles regularly took to certain stands in Iran's policy toward its Soviet neighbor. On the basis of their programs, they postponed the improvement of Soviet-Iranian relations and economic exchanges. LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS believes these circles will take fresh steps in consolidating cooperation with the Soviet Union as a means to rouse Washington to resume the U.S.-Iranian dialogue.

These probabilities clearly stem from the notion that the two superpowers—namely, the Soviet Union and the United States—are enemies of Iran to the same extent. This cliche has been widely propagated among the Iranians who have long felt the effects of intensive propaganda from those opposed to Soviet-Iranian relations and it has been slow to die. However, at the same time, this cliched crumbling under the blows and impact of the Soviet Union's realistic policy and of the political process aimed at improving the international atmosphere. The Iranian people are increasingly coming to believe that the Soviet Union is prepared to expand and consolidate its relations with its southern neighbor if Iran is ready to reciprocate. During Iran's most difficult days, the Soviet Union adopted a judicious stance in its relations with that country. Moreover, current Soviet policy has nothing and will never have anything that will harm Iran's interests.

We think that the Soviet Union's restructuring has dealt the most effective blow to the cliche that the Soviet Union is an enemy. This restructuring in the field of foreign policy is aimed at ensuring a world which is free from force and free from nuclear weapons and gives priority to human values and nations' freedom to choose.

As pointed out by Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani in his talks with Mikhail Gorbachev, the policy of restructuring and the new outlook are extremely significant not only for the Soviet Union, but also for the expansion of Soviet-Iranian relations and for positive trends in the region and in the world.

Of course, the reaction to restructuring is not the same in Iran. Sometimes views which can only be described as truly surprising are expressed. For example, KEYHAN alleges that the democratic process of restructuring is making the ruling Communist Party lose its influence and that it is leading to the erosion of socialism. In this case, too, the worn-out cliche of anti-Communism is extremely obvious, and those who are captives of such ideas cannot see that restructuring in no way stems from any disillusionment among the Soviet people with socialism or the Communist Party because the Communist Party itself initiated developments in the country's domestic and foreign policy, an initiative which only added to its credibility.

We have not pointed to the existence of aberrations in Iran as far as restructuring in the Soviet Union is concerned in order to say that we are offended by such views. We want to prove clearly that the trend of expansion in Soviet-Iranian relations is taking place under complicated conditions of ideological differences between the two sides. But we believe that these ideological differences should not be transferred to relations between governments.

Bessmertnykh Receives Iranian Ambassador

LD1606180789 Moscow TASS in English 1754 GMT 16 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow June 16 TASS—Aleksander Bessmertnykh, USSR first deputy foreign minister, met today with Iranian Ambassador Naser Heirani-Nobari to discuss questions of further development of the Soviet-Iranian political dialogue and state of things in various areas of relations between the two countries.

President Najibullah Meets Afghan Teachers

LD2006193689 Moscow TASS in English 1859 GMT 20 Jun 89

[Text] Kabul, June 20 TASS—A meeting of President Najibullah of Afghanistan with teachers of higher educational establishments of the country was held for several days in the Afghan capital. They discussed a wide range of questions dealing with the present-day situation in the country and the situation with higher education.

Representatives of Afghan scientific circles supported a policy pursued by the Afghan leadership in the international arena, as well as its efforts aimed at settling the Afghanistan-related situation as soon as possible. At the same time, they expressed concern over some aspects of the internal situation and the state of higher education in Afghanistan.

Addressing the meeting, Najibullah pointed out that the reports of its participants were rather critical. Of course, your problems are quite real, but Afghanistan is waging a war imposed on it, which is destroying intellectuals and undermining science, he said. To begin with, it is necessary to hold an international conference on the demilitariation of Afghanistan.

It is only in these conditions that leaders of the country can be elected. However, our enemies do not wish to recognize it and insist on the solution of the problem of state power by military means.

We are not ursurping power, we propose to share it, the Afghan president pointed out. Yesterday our rule was undivided, but at the present these methods of government have been cast off. We made various proposals to the opposition on more than one occasion, including a proposal on holding elections, but never received a positive answer, he continued. The only demand of the opposition was that full authority be passed over to it.

There is the only way out from this situation: We all should rally for the sake of our nation. We should forget about our differences for the sake of protecting the national interests of our motherland. Let us think today not of a shortage of laboratories but of what is to be done for missiles not to explode in our country, the Afghan president said. The policy of national reconciliation to which there is no alternative is above any struggle, including ideological one, he pointed out in conclusion.

U.S. Ambassador Cited on Aid to Mujahidin

LD2206175689 Moscow TASS in English 1743 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] Islamabad June 22 TASS—The United States has not reduced but even increased arms supplies to Afghan rebels after Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan, U.S. Ambassador in Pakistan Robert Oakley said in an interview with Pakistani newspaper NAWA-I-WAQT published today. He had returned to Islamabad after a three-day visit to Washington.

Oakley said that U.S. arms supplies to the Afghan opposition had increased several times recently. According to him, the United States has not changed its policy towards Afghanistan.

U.S. Journalist Detained in Afghanistan

LD2106212589 Moscow TASS in English 1950 GMT 21 Jun 89

["American Journalist Was Caught Red-Handed in Afghanistan"—TASS headline]

[Text] Kabul June 21 TASS—American citizen Anthony Peter O'Brien, born in New York in 1946, who illegally penetrated into Afghanistan, was detained by security bodies of the Republic of Afghanistan about a fortnight ago.

TASS was told by competent bodies of the Afghan State Security Ministry, which were engaged in the investigation [words indistinct] O'Brien said he works as a press photographer [words indistinct) is engaged, in part, in the supply of photos to periodicals. Since 1986 he has repeatedly travelled to Pakistan and since April 1988 illegally penetrated several times into Afghan territory in Paktia, Lowgar and Nangarhar Provinces with the assistance of the Peshawar-based Islamic Party of Afghanistan leaders.

His latest venture was undertaken to prepare material for the popular LIFE magazine. O'Brien was smuggled with a group of Islamic Party of Afghanistan rebels into Vardak province from where he was brought in secret to Kabul with the task of photographing Kabul airport, security posts and other military facilities.

A question arises why did the American press photographer need to penetrate in secret into the Afghan capital risking his life at the time when his colleagues from many Western countries receive the right to come legally via respective channels? Evidently, O'Brien ventured to do this in view of a special nature of his mission.

TASS was told at the Afghan Foreign Ministry that Miyagol [name spelling as received], charge d'affaires of the Republic of Afghanistan in the United States, was summoned to the State Department where he was asked to contact the government of the republic to clarify the terms for the release of the unlucky adventurer. It was stressed that the Afghan Government does not object in principle to this step. It proposed to send a special U.S. representative to Kabul to solve on the spot procedural issues linkded with O'Brien's return to the homeland.

Comparison of Yazov TASS Interview

PM2006094589

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 20 June publishes in its First Edition on page 4 an unnamed TASS correspondent interview with Soviet Defense Minister Yazov. Comparison of the PRAVDA item, entitled "Toward a New Model of Security. Discussion Between Army General D.T. Yazov, Candidate Member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR Defense Minister, With a TASS Correspondent" with the translation of the Moscow TASS International Service in Russian version, published in the 19 June Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, beginning on page 117, reveals the following variations:

PRAVDA version omits opening and closing quotation marks;

page 117, PRAVDA version omits antepenultimate paragraph;

page 118, column one, paragraph one, only sentence, PRAVDA version reads: ...process of democratization of the world order. The fundamentals and... (substituting "the world order" for "world significance");

page 118, column one, paragraph five, only sentence, PRAVDA version reads: ...of the restructuring of Soviet defense building and the USSR Armed Forces. I would like you to clear up... (supplying PRAVDA rendering of passage indistinctly received on TASS);

page 118, column one, last paragraph, sentence two, PRAVDA version reads: ...formations are being modernized. Operational and combat... (substituting "modernized" for indistinctly received word on TASS);

page 118, column two, last paragraph, last sentence, PRAVDA version reads: ...such an approach, reflected, in particular, in a constructive position at the talks, is capable of... (adding passage);

page 119, column one, paragraph four, first sentence, PRAVDA version reads: ...proposals for reducing armaments and armed forces... (supplying PRAVDA rendering of word indistinctly received on TASS);

page 119, column one, last paragraph, sentence two, PRAVDA version reads: ...States beyond their national territory borders, and... (substituting "national" for "natural");

page 120, first column, last paragraph, sentence two, PRAVDA version reads: ...Navies armed with the most modern... (supplying PRAVDA rendering of phrase indistinctly received on TASS);

page 120, first column, same paragraph, same sentence, PRAVDA version reads: ...considerable offensive might. But the whole... (supplying PRAVDA rendering of passage indistinctly received on TASS);

page 121, second column, second paragraph, penultimate sentence, PRAVDA version reads: ...development and outline together the goals of their policies... (adding word, supplying PRAVDA rendering of word indistinctly received on TASS).

Afghan Rebels Plan To Use Chemical Weapons

PM2106082789 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Jun 89 Second Edition p 7

[Report by A. Lukyanov and R. Budrin, special correspondents of PRAVDA and APN: "Blackmail: Afghan Opposition Intends To Use Chemical Weapons"]

[Text] Kabul, 15 Jun—It is difficult not to notice this item of news. In the news roundups of the Kabul regime and the BAKHTAR agency there have been reports that the armed Afghan opposition intends to resort to chemical weapons. In particular, the leaders of the Peshawar "alliance of seven" have created a special group which is to monitor the receipt, supply, and means of use of toxic agents during combat actions. Do these reports not mean that the armed opposition is trying by this means to make up for its military failures, especially at Jalalabad?

In recent weeks Mujahidin actions have been reduced to shelling cities and population centers under government control. The inhabitants of Nangarhar Province are suffering the most at present. The shelling of Jalalabad from 9 through 11 June has left 22 dead and 54 injured. The Afghan capital is also under fire. The day before one of your correspondents flew in, a woman and a military serviceman were wounded at Kabul airport and an Afghan aircraft was damaged.

The opposition's scheme is to use the shelling to intimidate the civilian population, force them to leave their homes, and to cause dissatisfaction at the Kabul Government's policy.

At the same time the propaganda conditioning of the Afghans has stepped up noticeably. By means of leaflets and radio broadcasts it is being drummed into them that the "transitional government" in Peshawar is ready for peace and that President Najibullah and the Kabul Government are the obstacle to its establishment.

The "transitional government's" "peacemaking" propaganda ploys indicate that the national reconciliation policy is gaining more and more supporters. Despite the blackmail of the "intransigents."

Here are the latest facts. On 11 June 110 people headed by their commander, Mullah Shah Zade, went over to the authorities' side. Previously his group had operated in the armed formation called the "Islamic Party of Afghanistan" led by G. Hekmatyar. In an Afghan television news program we learned that another group of 30 with its commander, Rakhmatulla [name as transliterated] had switched to the government side. Former Mujahidin have surrendered to the authorities in a district of Balkh province.

Israeli Official Comments on Palestinian Autonomy

TA1706160189 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Hebrew 1630 GMT 16 Jun 89

[Commentary by Dmitriy Prokofyev]

[Text] Yosi Ben-Aharon, the director general of the Prime Minister's Office, said that the government is prepared to give the Palestinians all of the components of self-determination except for the flag and the anthem. In an interview in THE JERUSALEM POST he emphasized that one need not be afraid of the term self-determination for the Palestinians, and that while the demand for a Palestinian state will not be discussed at the first stage of the political settlement, it will be raised during the next stage, when negotiations are conducted on the final status of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The Israeli Government is prepared to guarantee that the transitional arrangements, the autonomy for the Palestinians, will be provisional only, and will be replaced by a permanent arrangement within 5 years, Ben-Aharon stated. We are hereby offering you, the listeners, the notes written on this topic by our commentator Dimitriy Prokofyev:

If Mr Ben-Aharon expressed the true official stance of the Israeli Government, one must admit that significant progress has been made toward softening the plan endorsed by the government for advancing a Middle East settlement. Why am I saying if? I am saying this because Jerusalem officials issue contradictory declarations on this subject daily. The defense and foreign ministers interpret the same clauses differently, while Ben-Aharon's remarks run counter, so I have learned, to comments by the prime minister in Ma'ale Adummim where he declared he would stop the political process if the Palestinians demand a state rather than settle for autonomy.

Still, one wants to be a little optimistic. We would like to hope that lurking behind the numerous contradictory statements is the Israeli Government's readiness for a compromise. It is natural, after all, that each side would express its maximum demands before negotiations begin. This is an important rule in the political game. The sides do not want to seem yielding, or to put their bargaining chips on the table prematurely. When the negotiations start, positions are bridged and a compromise is reached. In other words, if the director general of the Prime Minister's Office expresses an approved position, and if this position is formally submitted to the Arabs rather than remaining only an interview in the newspaper, the chances of implementing the Israeli plan will considerably increase.

Nevertheless, if elections are conducted in the territories, and negotiations begin between Israel and the Palestinian representatives, additional problems will immediately surface. This is first and foremost due to the fact that the Israeli Government—and here there are no disagreements between Labor and Likud members, between Ben-Aharon and Shamir—is not prepared to recognize the PLO as a partner to negotiations. Ben-Aharon indeed tried to soften the official position: He rejected direct negotiations with the PLO, but said that the Palestinian partners in the territories can receive advice from Tunis, of course, and even declare themselves as PLO members. We would not require that they swear by the Koran that they do not support the PLO; this would not be realistic, the director general of the Prime Minister's Office said. If this is so, though, it is impossible to explain why negotiations with the Palestinian leadership are rejected. The conclusion is that Jerusalem is willing to negotiate with the PLO through mediators from the territories. Incidentally, Minister Arens rejected the Egyptian mediation offered by Butrus Ghali, but one can hardly find one's way in this maze of contradictory declarations.

As paradoxical as this may sound, it is Israel who stands to lose from this. If the government in Jerusalem is willing to hold negotiations with Palestinians in the territories who get advice from Tunis and declare they are the PLO, it should also understand that their demands will also be PLO demands. As opposed to Yasir 'Arafat, however, who is empowered to make concessions, the Palestinians in the territories will not give in, nor will they be prepared for compromise, because they do not see themselves as the representatives of the Palestinian people, but only as mediators between Israel and the authorized representation, the PLO. Specifically, Ben-Aharon's declarations do remove a considerable number of obstacles to the first stage of elections, but the obstacles will reappear at the second stage of negotiations, and this is unfortunate. It should still be noted that even the longest journey starts with a single step, and I would like to hope that additional steps will be made so that ultimately Israel will meet the Palestinians halfway, and the historic compromise will be achieved at the meeting point.

Israeli Editor Interviewed on USSR Visit

PM2006105189 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Jun 89 Morning Edition p 5

["IZVESTIYA Interview" with Dov Yudkovski, chief editor of Israeli newspaper YEDI'OT AHARONOT, by B. Ivanov and A. Ostalskiy in Moscow: "I Am in Favor of Reasonable Risk, an Israeli Newspaper Editor Says"; date of interview not given; first paragraph is an introduction]

[Text] Dov Yudkovski, chief editor of Israel's largest newspaper YEDI'OT AHARONOT, was recently on a private visit to the Soviet Union. Prior to his departure from Moscow he gave an interview to IZVESTIYA correspondents.

[Correspondents] You have spent only a few days in our country. A very brief period, of course, but nonetheless what are your impressions from this acquaintance with our country?

[Yudkovski] I have heard it said on many occasions that you are hospitable, but hitherto I had not had an opportunity to experience this for myself. Now I am convinced that your people's kindness and openness are real winners. Could such a trip have taken place, say, 5 or 7 years ago? I don't know, I am not sure. Now I am in Moscow. The fact that I have managed to come here means that major changes have really taken place in the USSR. To me, Moscow is like any other European city. I know and I can see for myself that you have quite a few difficulties, but I hope that they will all be overcome.

[Correspondents] Recent events—the meeting between the Soviet and Israeli foreign ministers, the exchange of groups of consular officials, and the revival of cultural contacts—are objectively furthering the normalization of relations between the two countries. But they are just a fragment of the political mosaic in the Near East, and their improvement depends on a general settlement in the region. In your view, how can peace be achieved in the Near East?

[Yudkovski] First, I would like to say right away that the lack of diplomatic relations between our states is an anomaly. Of course, two sides can have different views on various problems—this is natural and normal. But if we wish to persuade one another, we must talk to each other, and talk constantly. This is simply impossible in conditions of a diplomatic vacuum. I therefore think that the need to restore relations is obvious. Otherwise, we will continue to adhere to the principle of the old French proverb: "The one who is absent is always in the wrong."

And now about the prospects for settlement. There is currently a lot of talk about an international conference on the Near East. This is a highly complex question for us. I would even say that to all intents and purposes attitudes toward it have split the country into two camps. Some, including the prime minister, reason as follows: If a conference were to begin, it could very soon acquire its own dynamics and start developing according to its own laws, and it would prove simply impossible to control such a process. Such a turn of events could reach a point where the conference's results would not correspond with Israel's aspirations. Others declare that they are prepared to run this risk for the sake of establishing peace. I am in favor of reasonable risk. I believe that there is no need to be afraid of taking bold steps. It is, however, necessary to define a limit beyond which no risks could be taken. The point is that the enormous wound inflicted on our people during World War II—the mass extermination of Jews—has made us exceptionally sensitive toward any threat.

[Correspondents] What is the attitude toward the Soviet Union in Israel, what do people know about us and our life?

[Yudkovski] The Israelis have long nurtured a feeling of great sympathy for Soviet people. Generally, strictly speaking I and hundreds of thousands of my compatriots are alive today thanks to two things—Churchill's policy and Russian soldiers' heroism. Without help from Russia or Britain, not a single other power could have stood up to Hitler alone. Fascism has left deep scars in my life. I, like many other Jews, was locked in a concentration camp. I was in Oswiecim, and I cannot deny that I could have ultimately suffered the fate which befell my comrades who perished there. They started urgently evacuating the inmates in the winter of 1945, when your tanks were quite near the camp. But the Germans were already in the grip of panic, and I managed to escape at one of the halts. Those who had not been moved out were liberated by the Soviet soldiers....

Many of our state's founding fathers were emigrants from the USSR. The Russian influence can be felt in our songs, dances, and customs. We are very grateful to the Soviet Union for its role in the creation of the state of Israel. Despite the fact that our countries drew apart later on for a variety of reasons, attitudes toward Moscow remained warm for a long time: The Soviet ambassador remained the most popular diplomat in Tel Aviv right until the mid- sixties.

The Israelis are of course not indifferent to everything that is now happening in your country. They follow your transformations with interest but, frankly speaking, they are not sure whether the reforms now under way will be taken to their completion, whether restructuring will prove irreversible.

Lukyanov Receives Indian Trade Minister

LD2006211389 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1555 GMT 20 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow, 20 Jun (TASS)—Anatoliy Lukyanov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet and candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee, today received Dinesh Singh, Indian minister of trade, in the Kremlin.

Issues of further developing and strengthening Soviet-Indian relations and also a series of international problems of mutual interest were discussed.

Biryukova Meets Indian Commerce Minister

LD2006143389 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 20 Jun 89

[Text] Today Biryukova, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, met Indian Commerce Minister Dinesh Singh. In the course of their conversation, issues of developing and deepening Soviet-Indian trade and economic cooperation, including in the area of consumer goods, were discussed.

Vorotnikov Delegation Stops Over in Morocco

Greeted By Moroccan Officials 18 Jun

LD1906063989 Moscow TASS in English 0622 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Text] Rabat June 19 TASS—A Supreme Soviet delegation led by Politburo member Vitaliy Vorotnikov, president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation, made a stopover in Morocco on Sunday [18 June] on the way back home from an official friendly visit to Brazil.

It was welcomed at the Rabat Airport by Jalal al-Sayed, first vice president of the Chamber of Representatives (parliament), and other Moroccan officials, as well as the Soviet ambassador to this country, Malik Fazylov.

Expressing gratitude for the warm welcome, Vorotnikov said that it testifies to the long-standing good relationship between the two countries, which is based on reciprocity, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, and goodneighbourliness.

The Soviet Union and Morocco share common views on many aspects of the world situation connected with international security and efforts for peace and for the survival of humanity, he added.

Vorotnikov also pointed out possibilities to further increase Soviet-Morocco cooperation, saying that given a mutual desire, the two countries can use these possibilities to the benefit of their peoples and world peace.

Leaves Morocco for Home 19 Jun

LD1906135989 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1338 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Text] Rabat, 19 Jun (TASS)—A delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet headed by Vitaliy Vorotnikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet, left Morocco for home today.

The delegation, which was returning from Brazil where it stayed on an official friendly visit, made a stopover in Morocco on Sunday.

Tunisian Communist Party's Goals Noted

PM2006104589 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Jun 89 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "To Improve Party Structure"]

[Text] Tunis, 14 Jun—The Tunisian Communist Party [PCT] has published a statement here on the results of the second PCT National Council session, devoted to political and organizational questions. It points out, in particular, that the country is now living through "a complex period in its history," and it contains an appeal for the creation of a progressive bloc of democratic forces.

The National Council defined as the PCT's chief tasks for the upcoming period the improvement of the party's structure, the expansion of its activities among various sections of the population, above all among young people, and the improvement of party activists' political and ideological training.

The National Council instructed the party's Central Committee to examine the question of publishing another mass-circulation press organ of the PCT in addition to the newspaper ATTARIK EL JADID.

Presidium Sends Condolences on Sri Lanka Disaster

PM2006104189 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Jun 89 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Profound Condolences"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has sent the President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka Ranasinghe Premadasa a telegram expressing profound condolences in connection with the natural disaster which has struck Sri Lanka and resulted in human casualties and serious material damage. The telegram also conveyed the most sincere sympathies to the victims and to the families and relatives of those killed.

USSR, Yemen Arab Republic Conclude Agreement

LD2006135889 Moscow TASS in English 1237 GMT 20 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow June 20 TASS—The news agency of the Soviet Union (TASS) and the SABA news agency of the Yemen Arab Republic concluded a cooperation agreement here today.

The agreement was signed by TASS general director Leonid Kravchenko and SABA director-general Yahya Salih al-Shawkani.

East Europe

Second Round Polish Election Results Reported

LD2006195289 Moscow TASS in English 1931 GMT 20 Jun 89

[Text] Warsaw June 20 TASS—A report of the state election commission with the official results of the second-round elections of the Sejm and the Senate of the People's Republic of Poland held on June 18 was published here.

It is seen from this long list of figures on 107 electoral districts in the balloting to the Sejm and on 6 constituencies in the elections to the Senate that the candidates of the government coalition—the Polish United Workers' Party, other allied parties and organisations of lay Catholics supporting them—received 299 deputy mandates (65 per cent of a total of 460 seats in the Sejm), allotted to them, after a vote tally in the first and second round.

Opposition candidates supported by the Solidarity civil committee scored a spectacular success by gaining already in the first round 160 out of 161 seats set aside for non-party members, and in the second—received the last deputy mandate. The opposition will have 99 out of 100 seats in the Senate: It won another seven seats in the second round.

Voter turnout was rather low on June 18: Only 25.31 per cent of the registered voters turned up for elections.

Zbyslaw Rykowsky, deputy press spokesman for the Polish Government, told a news conference today that a political structure of the new twochamber Polish parliament was formed as a result of the elections. The state of matters is as follows now: Either the coalition and the opposition will cooperate or we are in for a knot of conflicts, a blocking of the legislative process, and parliamentary impotence.

The elections imparted a new nature to state power, but this will not, however, disentangle the knot of our economic problems. The ability of the formed political structure to overcome problems and contradictions in the economy, which have been piling up for many years now, will decide the destiny of the Polish experiment, since parliamentary wrangling may prevent to put goods on the shelves and allow hopes to vanish. A strong pro-reform coalition may emerge, which will ensure transition to a new economic order in keeping with the principles agreed upon at the "round table".

Putting together a "big coalition" involving all influential political forces of the country would be an optimum decision upon the results of the elections to the Sejm and the Senate of the Polish People's Republic, Marian Orzechowski, a Politburo member and Central Committee secretary of the PUWP [Polish United Workers Party] said in an interview with the ZYCIE WARSZAWY newspaper. True, this does not mean that its immediate formation is quite real, He said.

He expressed the view that the more real is reaching [phrase as received] such a parliamentary agreement which will make it possible to put together of all political forces represented in the Sejm and the Senate a kind of a government of national confidence, in whose programme and composition both the Sejm and society and also foreign partners will put trust.

At today's news conference Janusz Onyszkiewicz, a press spokesman for Solidarity, described the idea of forming a "big coalition" as premature. In his view, this is rather a programme for the future.

Poland's Rakowski Speaks on Election Results

PM2006140789 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Jun 89 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "The Polish United Workers Party's Historical Responsibility"]

[Text] Warsaw, 16 Jun—The first round of Sejm and Senate elections ended in success for the opposition. We were defeated. This was stated by M. Rakowski, member of the Polish United Workers Party [PZPR] Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers, in a speech at a meeting with the Wroclaw party aktiv.

There are signs of apathy, indifference, and lack of faith in our cause's prospects in the ranks of the coalition and in the PZPR at the moment. But there are also party members, M. Rakowski noted, who are convinced that it is necessary to courageously counteract the new situation and not abandon the struggle, realizing that defeat could turn into success tomorrow or the day after tomorrow, that the party has something to defend and something to fight for. The policy it pursues, the Polish government head continued, accords with the people's desire to live in a democratic, strong, and socialist Polish state.

The opposition's aggressive approach during the campaign, which was reflected in daily instruction on whom to cross out, "Down with the Commune" appeals, and the involvement of a considerable number of Roman Catholic priests in action in support of opposition candidates, stunned many PZPR members. The massive attack by political opponents caught many of us unawares—after all, the election was supposed to be nonconfrontational. It should be admitted that party members have gotten unused to political struggle, and the comfort of wielding power for many years virtually alone has made them soft.

Despite the fact that the situation has become more complicated in Poland since the first round of the elections, conditions still exist for successfully continuing the policy of reforms and consensus. It is important to know what "Solidarity" wants to be, how much it is a trade union, and how much a political force.

The most effective form of government would be a joint government involving all forces represented in the parliament; consequently, a coalition. And we propose that as the best solution.

In any event, the opposition must take responsibility for the country, for economic reform, and the improvement of the economic situation in Poland. This responsibility must take the form of cooperation with the coalition.

In both cases—in the context of a grand coalition or in conditions of division into government and opposition camps in parliament, the building of democratic socialism, free from all relics of Stalinism, remains the PZPR's historical responsibility, M. Rakowski noted.

Warsaw's Anti-Soviet Demonstration Highlighted

PM2006131189 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 17 Jun 89 p 3

[Our own correspondent V. Shutkevich report under the "Day on the Planet" rubric: "Attack in Warsaw"]

[Text] Members of extremist youth groupings organized an anti-Soviet demonstration 16 June in the evening in the very center of the Polish capital. Gathering on the steps of the Church of the Holy Cross, the demonstrators demanded the complete removal of the Soviet units who are temporarily stationed on this country's territory. The following slogans were heard above the crowd "Soviets Go Home!" "Down With the Soviet Occupation!" and "Down With the Commune!" and pamphlets were thrown about. Firecrackers and bottles were hurled at the militia who came to maintain public order. It is worthy of note that a report appeared in the Polish newspaper the same day on the withdrawal of an individual motorized rifle batallion—the first of our troop subunits to be withdrawn from Poland in accordance with the plan for reducing Soviet troop units—from Swidnica. Thus the process of reducing our troops is taking place regardless of extremists' wishes.

Political observers here link the demonstration with the second round of elections to the country's parliament due to take place on Sunday.

GDR SED Politburo Member's Plenum Report Cited

LD2206132789 Moscow TASS in English 1213 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] Berlin 22 Jun TASS—The GDR news agency ADN reports:

Berlin (ADN)—The policy of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany (SED) will also in future be guided by the principle that each socialist country builds socialism according to its national conditions and that each party is solely responsible to its own people, a report by the SED Politburo to a party Central Committee plenum has said.

The report, given by Politburo member and Central Committee secretary Joachim Herrmann here on Thursday, said: "At present we are witnessing very intense efforts by certain politicians of capitalist countries to exert political, ideological and economic pressure on socialist countries and make them adopt capitalist concepts and structures, bourgeois pluralism and bourgeois ideology."

Under the banner of 'renewal of socialism', forces aspiring to eliminate socialism were at work, Herrmann noted, adding: "In this context, we are filled with concern at developments in Hungary."

Attempts by bourgeois politicians and ideologues to use the variety of socialist development to drive a wedge between the socialist countries were doomed to failure, the report underlined.

"Our party will continue to fulfil its internationalist duty by building socialism in the GDR as effeciently as possible, by doing everything in a spirit of mutual solidarity and assistance to fulfil existing agreements and develop relations with the fraternal countries," the report continued.

This was especially so concerning relations with the Soviet Union, to which the GDR attributed "priority importance". These exemplary relations between the two countries and two communist parties were marked by intensity and variety.

The report stressed that the GDR supported all efforts to further strengthen the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA), the socialist economic community.

CPSU Delegation Examines Agrarian Policy in GDR

PM2006132389 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Jun 89 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Interparty Ties Developing"]

[Text] A delegation of CPSU party workers headed by N.I. Dementey, secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee, was in the GDR 12-17 June, during which time it studied Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] experience in the sphere of agrarian policy. Meetings were held at the SED Central Committee Agriculture Department and in a number of the republic's central economic departments on questions concerning the organization and economic management mechanism in the agro-industrial complex.

The delegation was received by W. Krolikowski, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee.

Bulgaria's Zhivkov Arrives in Moscow 23 Jun

LD2306092289 Moscow TASS in English 0916 GMT 23 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow June 23 TASS—Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and president of the State Council of Bulgaria, arrived in Moscow for a working visit today.

He was met at the airport by Lev Zaykov, member of the Politbureau, secretary of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee and first Secretary of the Moscow Party Committee, as well as other officials.

Bulgaria's Atanasov Cited on Muslim Unrest

PM2106082989 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Jun 89 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Statement by Head of Government"]

[Text] Sofia, 18 Jun—A statement by Georgi Atanasov, chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers, to a BTA correspondent in connection with the continuing tension among Bulgarian Muslims in certain parts of the country was published here today.

The appeal to the people by T. Zhivkov, chairman of the State Council, of 29 May this year was greeted with understanding and patriotic enthusiasm in the country, G. Atanasov said. Working people support his call for the need to further strengthen the people's unity and cohesion around the Bulgarian Communist Party and to implement restructuring in all spheres of social life. At the same time the tension among certain groups of the country's population has not been fully overcome. The "stage managers" of the anti-Bulgarian campaign abroad and their emissaries in individual parts of the country are continuing to sow rumors with a view to disrupting the calm and security of Bulgarian citizens, are creating a resettlement psychosis, and are violating labor legislation and public order.

As is known, under the Vienna accords Bulgaria recently made changes to its legislation on questions relating to the right of every Bulgarian citizen to leave the country, stay temporarily or permanently abroad, and return to Bulgaria. This right is guaranteed for all people without exception.

The Bulgarian side has evaluated positively Turkey's response to T. Zhivkov's appeal for the borders to be opened. But certain interested circles in that country are seeking to portray the Bulgarian citizens' natural right to leave almost as their deportation to Turkey. They pursue dishonorable political ends, play out shameful scenes of spurious concern for the fate of Bulgarian Muslims, and try to manipulate international public opinion.

I declare on behalf of the Bulgarian Government that no one wishes to or can force Bulgarian citizens to leave their motherland. In Bulgaria equality before the law is ensured for all citizens, including Muslims. Great-Turkish imperial ambitions can be seen behind the psychosis and hatred unleashed toward the Bulgarian people and fanned by certain high-ranking persons in Turkey. Bulgaria advocates good-neighborly, humane, civilized relations with the Turkish people. It is prepared for a productive, constructive dialogue without prior conditions, the Bulgarian head of government emphasized.

'Expulsions' of Turks From Bulgaria Denied

LD2206124989 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1127 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow, 22 June (TASS) political observer Yuriy Kornilov writes: "A strange publication, to put it lightly, appeared today in the pages of the UK newspaper DAILY TELEGRAPH. Referring to certain unnamed "official sources" in Istanbul, the newspaper asserts that, "persons of Turkish nationality are being expelled from Bulgaria with the sanction of the Soviet Union."

No matter what you say, this is either juggling facts or blatant disinformation.

Yes, in actual fact, a certain number of Bulgarian citizens, having taken advantage of the new legislation on passports for foreign travel, are leaving for Turkey at the present time. However, as has been officially stated in Sofia, the version being circulated by certain circles in the West about the "expulsion" and "deportation" of these people is biased and untrue. Bulgaria is not "expelling" anyone and is not "deporting" anyone, but is providing its citizens with the legal right to leave the country and return to it. Surely the DAILY TELEGRAPH must know about the official statements widely circulated by the Bulgarian Telegraph Agency, BTA.

The assertion of the British newspaper that the so-called "expulsions" are taking place "with the sanction" of the USSR is really absolutely absurd. You see, it is more than obvious that the departure of a certain number of Bulgarian citizens for Turkey is the personal affair of these citizens and an internal affair of Bulgaria. Where does the Soviet Union and its mythical "sanctions" come in here?

Biryukova Visits Bulgarian Exhibition in Moscow

PM2106095989 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Jun 89 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Exhibition Viewed"]

[Text] On 15 June A.P. Biryukova, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, visited the jubilee national exhibition "Bulgaria Present and Future" mounted at the Exhibition of National Economic Achievements. She viewed consumer goods on display there.

A.P. Biryukova was accompanied by E. Zlateva, Bulgarian minister of light industry and chairman of the "Industry for Man" association.

Silayev Receives Bosnia-Hercegovina Official

LD2006225589 Moscow in Serbo-Croatian to Yugoslavia 1900 GMT 20 Jun 89

[Text] Today [20 June] deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Ivan Silayev received president of the Executive Council of Bosnia- Hercegovina, Marko Ceranic, who is visiting the USSR at the invitation of the Kazakhstan leadership. The Yugoslav guests briefed their host about the program of economic cooperation between the two republics for the period up to 1995 through many projects of industrial cooperation in metallurgy, machine-building, timber processing, food and (?light) industry. During the talks, in which the Yugoslav ambassador in the USSR Milan Veres took part, there was also consideration of general issues of trade and economic cooperation between the USSR and Yugoslavia.

Romanian Trade Union Delegation Visits Moscow

18070653 Moscow TRUD in Russian 10 Jun 89 p 4

[TASS report: "Cooperation Is Being Strengthened"]

[Text] Participants in a meeting of a Romanian trade union delegation and the trade union aktiv of the Soviet capital held on 9 June in Moscow came out in favor of further expansion and deepening of friendship and cooperation among workers of the two countries. Participating in the discussion, which took place in an atmosphere of mutual respect, sincere friendship, and comradely mutual understanding, were S.A. Shalayev, chairman of the AUCCTU [All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions], and M. Dobrescu, head of the Romanian delegation, member of the Political Executive Committee of the Romanian Communist Party Central Committee, and chairman of the Central Council of the General Trade Union Association.

The 5-day visit of the Romanian guests to the USSR—during which, in addition to Moscow, the delegation visited Kiev and learned about the conditions for the labor, life, and leisure of Soviet workers—culminated with a meeting in the Palace of Labor.

During the visit the leaders of the AUCCTU and the Central Council of the General Union of Trade Unions of Romania emphasized the importance of further development of trade union ties, enrichment of their content, and closer interaction of labor collectives of enterprises of both countries. There was an exchange of opinions on crucial foreign political problems.

West Europe

'Crucial Period' for Greece Following Elections

PM2306101789 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
22 Jun 89 Second Edition pp 1, 5

[Vladimir Potapov dispatch under the rubric "Correspondent Comments": "Crucial Period"]

[Text] Athens, 21 Jun—Greece has centered a crucial transitional period. Prime Minister A. Papandreou has tendered his cabinet's resignation.

According to accurate figures, the bourgeois New Democracy Party [ND] which won the election gained 44.37 percent of the vote. The Panhellenic Socialist Movement [PASOK] won 39.1 percent of the vote. The bloc of left-wing and progressive forces, of which the Greek Communist Party was part, won 13.01 percent, and other parties gained 3.52 percent. The main political forces in the new parliament have 144 (ND), 125 (PASOK), and 29 (left-wing coalition) seats out of the 300 available.

Assessing the prevailing situation, the left-wing coalition political committee stated in a communique that the main aim set by the bloc at the elections has been achieved: Left-wing forces of democracy and progress have turned into an important factor on the Greek domestic political scene; the election results offer no prospect for the formation of a government with an overall majority.

Yesterday K. Mitsotakis, the ND leader, received a mandate to form a government. Speaking to journalists yesterday, he pointed to the complexity of his mission, since the ND does not have the parliamentary majority it needs. That is why the ND is proposing to set up an interim government with strictly stipulated powers for a period of a few months in order to "instill order" and prepare for repeat elections. The ND leader appealed to all parliamentarians to support this proposal.

Greek public attention is currently also fixed on the work of the PASOK Executive Bureau. The press notes that the Greek Socialists, despite having come second in the elections, are pointing out that there is still a democratic and progressive majority in parliament. According to a number of newspapers, PASOK is closely following the reaction to the ND proposal to form an interim coalition government.

It should be said that the current situation in the country is envisaged in existing legislation. This is expressed in allowing a government to be formed by each of the first three political forces in turn. In the event of failure it is stipulated that a government be formed on a broad footing. If even this fails to resolve the situation, repeat elections are held. Events in the near future will clarify the state of affairs.

The complex problems linked with the elections to the national parliament have pushed into the background the Greek elections to the European parliament, which were held simultaneously. According to the latest figures, ND won 40.8 percent (10 seats), PASOK received 35.9 percent (9 seats), the left-wing coalition received 14.47 percent (4 seats), and the bourgeois "Democratic Renewal" party received 1.37 percent (1 seat).

U.S.-French Nuclear Arms Cooperation Viewed

18070659 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN
in Russian 14 Jun 89 p 3

[Commentary by Andrey Balebanov: "A Marked Ace"]

[Text] The ace in the political deck of official Paris, which does not wish to include its nuclear arsenal in negotiations between East and West, has always been the postulate that France does not belong to the military organization of the NATO bloc. But it frequently happens that aces are beaten by trump cards. Such trump cards, which seriously rattle the position of the given postulate, are cited in the article of Princeton University Professor R. Ullmen in the U.S. journal, FOREIGN POLICY.

According to his data, for the purpose of drawing France into more active collaboration with NATO in the military sphere, since 1972, the United States has been secretly providing Paris with information on nuclear weapons. Notably, the French authorities have not refused this deal. In particular, the Pentagon gave the French military department information concerning the creation of multiple reentry vehicles of nuclear warheads, guidance systems, and missile fuel, and "means of overcoming Soviet defense." In addition, the sides agreed upon assignment of tasks and goals for implementing nuclear strikes against the USSR.

The Pentagon considered it wise acknowledging the facts of the cooperation immediately after the appearance of Ullmen's publication. Such an unexpected turn of events caused embarrassment in Paris: After all, such a level of interaction with the leading member of NATO had been kept a deep secret there. Hardly recovering from the shock, the French Ministry of Defense issued a statement which made an attempt to change the subject, and to acknowledge the significance of the very fact of cooperation between France and the Pentagon, using the language of card games, trying once again to bluff. The statement emphasized that this exchange of information "did not threaten France's independence in the nuclear area."

It should not be forgotten that since the time of France's departure from the military organization of the NATO bloc, the country has continued to support various forms of military contacts with the Atlantic alliance, despite public announcements to the contrary. Such contacts have become noticeably more dynamic since the beginning of the eighties. This new dynamism includes Paris' annual participation in NATO's military maneuvers, the "special relationship" with the West German Bundeswehr, and the recent decision to open negotiations with NATO on participation in the Atlantic PVO [air defense] system. There has now been added to the list the most important element testifying to very close military cooperation with the United States, that is, with NATO. Thus, the ace in the political deck of official Paris appears to have been marked.

Firm To Build Meat Processing Plant in Moscow

AU2006143589 Hamburg DIE WELT in German
20 Jun 89 p 13

["TB" report: "Meat Processing Plant for Moscow"]

[Text] Berlin—The Berlin-Consult GmbH (BC) will build a meat processing plant worth DM75 million in Moscow. BC concluded a contract with the Moscow Selkhospromexport Foreign Trade Enterprise. The plant is to be put into operation in 1992 and produce fresh meat and sausages, as well as protein powder, meat bone-meal, lard, and meat extract powder from the available bones. BC-Consult intends to open an office in Moscow in the fall.

Latin America & Caribbean

Fidel Castro Receives PRC's Qian 10 Jun

PM1406152789 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
11 Jun 89 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Exchange of Opinions"]

[Text] Havana, 10 June—Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] and president of the Council of State and the Council of Ministers of the republic, has received PRC Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, who is here on an official visit, and his accompanying delegation.

During the meeting, the newspaper GRANMA reports, the two delegations exchanged opinions on questions relating to the international situation and bilateral relations. There was also a useful exchange of information about the political, economic, and social aspects of the situations in Cuba and in the PRC.

Cuban Soldiers' Return From Angola Reported

PM1306110189 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
12 Jun 89 Second Edition p 6

[Own correspondent A. Moiseyev dispatch under general rubric "On the Spot Report": "Back From Angola. Cuban Internationalists Return Home"]

[Text] Havana—"Estrella, your son Gripilano is back from Angola!"—the neighbor shouted from the street.

The old woman started, put down the plate that she was washing, wiped her hands on a tea towel, and made for the door, wiping away tears of joy as she went.

A tall, broad-shouldered mulatto of about 30, a broad grin on his face, was walking down the alley in his native Santiago-de-Cuba. Wearing an internationalist serviceman's olive-colored fatigues, bleached by the sun, with a knapsack on his back and two rows of decorations on his chest. Gripilano Fuente, together with 120 comrades, had returned from Angola literally a few days ago. And almost immediately he left Havana for his native Santiago. The mother and son embraced on the threshold of the house....

The Cuban internationalist servicemen are returning home from Angola. Their country is implementing strictly and to the letter the commitments which it adopted under the tripartite agreement with the People's Republic of Angola and the Republic of South Africa, which came into force 1 April of this year. Even prior to this date Havana demonstrated its good will to the world by pulling out 3,000 fighters from that African country ahead of schedule. Let me recall that the Cubans will withdraw 50,000 of their servicemen from Angolan territory by 1 July 1991.

Reports about the return of Cuban internationalists are becoming more and more regular and commonplace. Virtually every day aircraft from Luanda land at Havana airport with servicemen on board. The latest 150 Cuban "Angolans," headed by Lieutenant Colonel Jesus Rubio Suarez, have just arrived. The number of servicemen who have left Angola, where Cuban forces have been helping the fraternal African republic to defend its independence and sovereignty for almost 14 years now, had reached 9,267 people by the beginning of June. The timetable for the withdrawal of Cuban units from Angola is being observed in military fashion, strictly and to the letter.

The young men and women in olive-colored fatigues are returning home. Still fresh in the memory of many of them are the heavy and fierce battles with regular units of the South African Army and the bandit gangs of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] and the deaths and wounds of their comrades in arms. As soon as they set foot on home soil, the servicemen become aware of care for them, shown not just by their near and dear ones. Each contingent of arrivals is met by party and government leaders. They are provided with jobs or the opportunity to study. Specified official preferential treatment is available to them when applying for jobs at enterprises or for places at secondary technical or higher educational establishments.

Cuba is welcoming the returning servicemen as heroes.

Raul Castro Comments on Relations With U.S.

LD1506191189 Moscow TASS in English 1512 GMT 15 Jun 89

[Text] Havana June 15 TASS—Raul Castro has confirmed Cuba's intention to continue the withdrawal of its troops from Angola under the agreement between Angola, Cuba and South Africa.

The second secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee, first vice-president of the Council of State and the Council of Ministers of the republic, and minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, speaking at the meeting to mark the 28th anniversary of the creation of the Western Army, said that returning troops, equipment and armaments will be used to enhance the country's defence capacity, specifically territorial military units.

Touching on relations with the United States, Castro drew attention to the intensification of the anti-Cuban activity on the part of the Washington administration. The recent months have witnessed increased threats, so drawbacks in such a matter as defence cannot be allowed to be made, he said.

After Ronald Reagan capped his presidency, it was logical to expect that the Bush Administration will take a more realistic and pragmatic stance, Castro said. However, the developments of recent months show that the United States is out to provoke new friction. Attempts are made to set up an anti-Cuban television station which poses a threat to Cuba's sovereignty and against which Cuba takes adequate measures.

Castro furthermore noted that in the latter half of May Bush made anti-Cuban statements and several days later the United States conducted military exercises off Cuba, which were of an openly aggressive nature.

On June 11, a submarine was spotted 20 kilometers from the shores of Cienfuegos Province and was then forced to sail away. On the next day it was detected once again but already at a greater distance from Cuban shores, Castro said.

Enhanced hostility toward Cuba is traced to the U.S. Government's ideological campaign aimed at projecting complex processes in socialist countries as a "bankruptcy of socialism". Castro stressed that it is time for the U.S. Administration to halt the escalation of aggressiveness toward Cuba, which is fraught with dangerous consequences.

Future Elections, Economy in Nicaragua Examined

PM2106104989 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Jun 89 Morning Edition p 4

[APN correspondent A. Korzin dispatch especially for IZVESTIYA: "Nicaragua: Opposition Given a Chance"]

[Text] Managua—Nicaragua's presidential elections are scheduled for February 1990. Quite some time in the future, one would think. But they already provide a center of attraction for all forces within the country and a focus for the action of a growing number of external factors which have a considerable influence on the development of the situation in Nicaragua.

The most important of these is the Central America factor. The elections in Nicaragua were one of the main items on the agenda of the meeting of presidents from the five Central American states in San Salvador last February. The holding of these elections—in conditions of democracy and a "clean" electoral process—is perceived in the region as a prerequisite for serious progress toward a settlement of the crisis, and consequently their significance transcends the bounds of a single country.

As the ruling party, the Sandinistas are perfectly well aware of the responsibility they have to bear. In April, after consultations with the opposition, they submitted for examination by the National Assembly draft amendments to the electoral law and a law on the mass media constituting the juridical basis for the future elections. These documents are designed to ensure broad and equal participation in the election campaign by all political forces and define the key elements of its preparation and conduct. For example, both contras and political opponents of the Sandinistas who return home from abroad will now be able to participate in the election campaign. The government's most serious intentions are also indicated by the following fact: The Sandinistas have stated their readiness to accept international observers at the elections.

Nonetheless, the opposition has responded critically to the new laws. The Sandinistas' opponents come out with extreme views in their rejection of the laws, describing the electoral legislation as "totalitarian" and "dictatorial."

"Speeches by opposition leaders," Leticia Herrera, first deputy president of the National Assembly, said, "suggest that they would accept as 'clean' only elections which we Sandinistas may lose. But the new version of the electoral law offers parties an opportunity to compete and Nicaraguans an opportunity to freely express their will on the question of which political force is capable of running the country. The Sandinistas will accept their decision, whatever it might be."

According to preliminary estimates, 60 percent of Nicaragua's 3 million population will vote. Their support will be split between some 20 parties—and maybe even more—since a number of organizations have applied for party status. The majority of sober-minded politicians in Nicaragua agree that the opposition can succeed in the elections only if it unites within a coalition with joint candidates, but this is hardly likely to happen.

"I am skeptical about the prospect of unification," Cesar Delgadillo, secretary of the Social Christian Popular Party, which has six deputies in the National Assembly, declared. "The opposition is too fragmented. Separate blocs—yes, this is possible. But they will have to clash with Nicaragua's only monolithic party—the Sandinist National Liberation Front. It has the experience of some 10 years in power, a single program, high degree of discipline, and a ramified organizational structure enabling it to actively work with the people."

One more point could perhaps be added to C. Delgadillo's assessment: The absence of a specific and positive opposition program. One could hardly describe as such a program the opposition's categorical "No" to every step by the government. On the other hand, many of those I spoke to said that the Sandinist Front, even though it has not always risen to the occasion, has not been afraid to admit this and to correct its mistakes. The Sandinistas' popularity may not be unreserved, but it is sufficient to enable them to bid to retain the offices of president and vice president, as well as a majority in parliament.

The economic crisis is a much more powerful opponent of the government. It is the main topic of election campaign debates. The war, which has cost the country thousands of lives and losses running into billions, is virtually over. According to statements by Sandinista leaders, the contras no longer pose any serious threat. Yes, they carry out sporadic acts of sabotage, but these are acts of desperation rather than shows of strength. Economic chaos is today's paramount problem.

The Sandinistas do not shirk all blame for it, even though they never tire of reminding people that the aggression is the most important cause of the calamities. Ambitious and obviously infeasible long-term projects elaborated in the first years after the revolution's victory, excessive centralization of management, the wave of confiscations which scared off private entrepreneurs, corruption among state functionaries, foreign aid which is not always effectively utilized, and poor discipline at enterprises—all this produced serious disruptions in the economy. The rest was accomplished by the war. Export volumes fell sharply. Nicaragua found itself dependent on external credits and financial "transfusions." The country's galloping inflation is already proverbial, and unemployment was aggravated by the pruning of the state budget and personnel reductions—necessary measures to curb the crisis. There is a widening gap between the level of poverty and the high cost of living, and the incomes of a large number of people are below the poverty line. The crisis has resulted in an exodus of skilled cadres from the country. There is growing dissatisfaction among the population, which is losing its political bearings in the conditions of poverty.

The government is making efforts to bring order into the economy, to encourage the private sector, and to ease the lot of the working strata. In April it introduced lower interest rates for loans and a profits tax. It announced the creation of a land bank for the peasants in greatest need. Import duties have been reduced. The black market is continuing to be curbed by means of "active exchange policy," which means government control of the exchange rate between the national currency, the cordoba, and the dollar. The government has held a series of consultations with the private sector.

"All this will bear fruit only if it is bolstered by lasting peace," Francisco Lopez, director of Nicaragua's Economic and Social Studies Institute, believes. "The economy's health cannot improve without political stability. These two factors for settling the crisis in Nicaragua are inseparable."

But the peace does not depend on Nicaraguans alone: It is well known that the U.S. Congress adopted a resolution to earmark many millions in additional "humanitarian" aid for the contras. This resolution clearly contradicts the White House's declarations of intent to solve the problem of relations with Nicaragua by diplomatic means. It also contradicts the San Salvador accords between the presidents of the five Central American countries, one of whose main points is the disarmament of the contras.

Giving the Nicaraguans an opportunity to sort out their affairs by themselves is probably the most correct way to solve the crisis in the country, which is still echoing alarmingly throughout the region.

USSR's Marchuk Received by Brazil's Sarney

PM1606102389 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Jun 89 Morning Edition p 3

[Unattributed report under general heading "Development of Ties"]

[Text] The USSR Academy of Sciences delegation headed by Academician G.I. Marchuk, president of the USSR Academy of Sciences, has ended its visit to Brazil.

The Soviet scientists were in Brazil 5-11 June at the invitation of the president of the republic's Special Secretariat for Science and Technology and the Brazilian Academy of Sciences.

The head of the Soviet delegation was received by President Jose Sarney of Brazil.

Commentary Describes OAS Visit to Panama

PA1706184289 Moscow in Spanish to Latin America 2300 GMT 16 Jun 89

[Commentary by Vyacheslav Rostovtsev]

[Text] The OAS commission, which was formed to help find a solution to the political crisis in Panama, conducted a second round of talks in that nation. The main conclusion reached by the commission members is that it is necessary to have a dialogue among representatives of the Panamanian military, the government, and the opposition, all of whom should sit down at the negotiating table to try to find a solution to the political crisis in that country.

The Guatemalan Foreign Minister [Mario Palencia], a member of that commission, said that he expects the negotiations to be successful. What else can be said? The situation in Panama was already complex prior to the 7 May general elections. Following the elections, the situation became aggravated. The reasons are well known. However, it is worthwhile recalling one of the causes: U.S. meddling in Panamanian internal affairs, which reached the point that additional U.S. troops were sent to the Canal Zone.

The situation has become so volatile that other Latin American countries have become greatly concerned. A conflict in Panama would further aggravate the situation in Central America. Therefore, some Latin American countries had the initiative to call the OAS' attention to the Panamanian situation so that these nations—with the OAS' help—could try to find a solution to the crisis in Panama.

I want to point out one important fact: Latin American countries have said that they are opposed to the use of any type of force to resolve Panama's political crisis and that they are opposed to any foreign meddling in Panamanian internal affairs. A special commission has been appointed to visit Panama to learn about the current situation there and to issue recommendations, which will then be analyzed at a regular OAS session.

We have learned that the commission has announced that it is in favor of a dialogue among the various Panamanian political groups. It is difficult at this time to predict how events will develop in this regard. However, if there is goodwill and a desire to overcome that country's critical situation, Panamanians may reach the necessary agreement—providing that no one interferes from abroad.

Soviet-Mexican Commission Signs Agreements

LD1406100389 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0430 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Text] Mexico, 14 Jun (TASS)—Important agreements, aimed at the development of mutually beneficial ties between the USSR and Mexico, were achieved during the fifth sitting of the joint Soviet-Mexican Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation which ended on Tuesday [13 June].

A long-term program for trade, economic, and scientific-technical cooperation was signed which outlines measures and fields for the expansion of business ties of interest to both sides. There was an exchange of letters on the creation of a joint Soviet-Mexican Commission on economic, trade, and scientific-technical cooperation and on maritime shipping. The sides signed a program of scientific-technical cooperation for the years 1989-1990.

The commission pointed out both sides' interest in expanding trade turnover and cooperation in the sphere of power engineering, ferrous mettalurgy, the petrochemical industry, fishing, and maritime shipping. It was noted that there is a mutual aspiration to develop new forms of business ties—joint enterprises, industrial cooperation, and barter operations.

The exchange of information about transformations in the sphere of economics and foreign economic ties which are being carried out in Mexico and the USSR was of great importance. The participants in the session agreed that these transformations create favorable conditions for the development of business cooperation.

Political & Social

Supreme Soviet Presidium Session Opens 23 Jun

LD2306101689 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 23 Jun 89

[Text] A USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium session opened in Moscow today. The discussion of the nominations of future members of the government is continuing in the committees and commissions of the supreme body of the country's state power.

The new composition of the government will be approved by the USSR Supreme Soviet, which will meet on 26 June.

Gorbachev Chairs Session

LD2306130589 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 23 Jun 89

[Text] A session of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet was held in the Kremlin today under the chairmanship of the Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet. The session examined the issues connected with the continuation of the first session of the USSR Supreme Soviet and discussed and approved the agenda and the work procedure of the session.

According to the report of Lukyanov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, a question was examined concerning the organization of the work on following the instructions given to the USSR Supreme Soviet by the Congress of the USSR People's Deputies. The Presidium has approved these proposals and submitted them for examination by the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The Presidium then discussed the draft law on the procedure of publishing and enacting the acts of the congress, the USSR Supreme Soviet, and their bodies. A decision was adopted to submit this draft law to the USSR Supreme Soviet for examination.

The report of Primakov, chairman of the Soviet of the Union of the USSR Supreme Soviet, on the work of the committees of the USSR Supreme Soviet and permanent commissions of the chambers on the discussion of the nominations for the USSR government and other state bodies, was heard and taken into consideration.

Implementing its constitutional power, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet has established commissions made up of USSR People's Deputies on the issues of awards [nagrady], citizenship [grazhdanstvo], and commutation [pomilovaniye]. A deputies' commission on the problems of Turkish-Meshketian population has been established at the recommendation of the permanent Commission on Nationalities Policy and Interethnic Relations of the Soviet of Nationalities. Some other questions of state life were examined.

Government Committee, Commission Heads Debated

Abalkin Nominated Deputy Chairman

LD2106192989 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Excerpts] [Program presenter Andrey Ptashnikov] As we have already reported, esteemed comrades, the commissions and committees of our Supreme Soviet continue to discuss the composition of the Soviet government. Next to me here in the studio is Commentator Aleksandr Ruvinskiy, and we are, of course, awaiting from you, Aleksandr, news about how the debate went today. [passage omitted]

[Ruvinskiy] A whole number of questions are arising, including ethical ones, insofar as we are talking about specific candidacies—and a number of such candidacies were examined today. At the joint session of a number of Supreme Soviet commissions, chambers, and committees Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov put forward the candidacy of Leonid Ivanovich Abalkin for the post of deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Commission for Economic Reform. The head of our government pointed out the academic's sense of principle in the way he has upheld his position. [passage omitted].

A great number of questions were put to Comrades Ryzhkov and Abalkin. But I had the impression that a considerable number of these questions were not connected with the fact that the deputies had doubts about the candidacy, but with the fact that there is such a great interest in our economic reform. There was something in the nature of an improvised news conference. The chairman's proposal to hold a special meeting between all interested deputies and Leonid Ivanovich Abalkin so that he could give explanations on various issues was generally received with satisfaction. Speaking about the tasks of the newly created State Commission of the Council of Ministers, Comrade Abalkin said:

[Begin Abalkin recording] The first task which now faces us is to ensure coordination and synchronization in conducting economic reform. What I mean is a conceptual type of coordination—so that decisions in the sphere of prices, taxes, finances, and so on proceed from a single realization of what we require, and a realization that it is precisely this that we require, and that the decisions we take do not contradict one another—and a coordination which ensures organizational harmonization in the activities of various departments, committees and organizations, on a clearly defined time-scale.

This time-scale may, of course, appear to be a fairly complex one; there are some measures which must be implemented over the course of the next year and a half. These measures are two-fold: On the one hand, there are measures concerning the overall improvement of the country's economic situation and a way out of the crisis situation in which the economy finds itself today—that is one direction of the work over this year and a half—and the second direction is the preparation and adoption of general acts of legislation on the basic elements of reform, beginning with laws on ownership, taxes, the financial system and land utilization, about which we have spoken here, and many other state enactments, which must be agreed upon so that we can embark, as from 1991, on the next big step in implementing reform. This must be a step based on a completely new understanding of the planned management of the economy and on new approaches which take into account the whole sum total of ideas and concepts of reform and acquired experience.

Finally, we must have a clear idea that over the course of these next 5 years there must be very profound changes, and that the economic mechanism with which we will enter the 13th 5-Year Plan, and that with which we shall end it, will be substantially different from each other. While maintaining the overall structure of management of the national economy, it cannot be preserved in 1995 in the same form that it will be in 1991. In terms of the scale of wholesale trade, the state of the market, and the state of the overall price system which will be functioning in that period, they will be very substantially different.

Therefore, it seems to me that one of the commissions' earliest tasks will be to determine, no later than the fall, two questions. First, to have a clear concept of the present stage of reform—there is a clear concept, and it has been approved by the June plenum of the party Central Committee in 1987, and in its fundamental idological points it is, I think, correct; and also to have all these operations set out on a clearly defined time-scale: a graph schedule of economic reform, as it were. [end recording]

[Ruvinskiy] Comrade Abalkin also singled out four key basic problems which require solution. These are: the stabilization of our monetary economy; a system of measures connected with anti-monopoly activities—I will explain—for example, it is proposed to assign capital investments on new construction only on the competitive basis of a draft—that's one measure; a renunciation of gross volume indicators in our economy; and a switch in economic practice from the dominance of principle of sharing to that of the principle of earning, and, what's more, at all levels, from the individual worker to the republic.

[Ptashnikov] So, as I understand it, the discussions and the speeches were very interesting. How did they end?

[Ruvinskiy] The deputies approved Comrade Abalkin's candidacy and adopted a decision to recommend it for confirmation to the Supreme Soviet.

The commissions of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities—these two commissions—today held hearings for the candidate to the post of chairman of the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio. [passage omitted] The candidacy proposed was that of Mikhail Fedorovich Nenashev. He told the deputies about the future development of the system of television and radio and expansion of broadcasting in the union and autonomous republics and regions.

Comrade Nenashev put forward a proposal to cover the work of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the work of the people's deputies in radio and television programs. In particular, in his opinion, it would be necessary to allocate time on central, republican, and local television and radio for delegates' speeches and for their meetings with the electorate. And it would be a good thing, the chairman of the USSR Gosteleradio said, to conduct a system of a weekly meetings on television between the leaders of the state, government, party, and parliamentary committees, commissions, and groups. The subject of these meetings could be chosen by those taking part in the broadcasts themselves or by television and radio correspondents. [passage omitted]

The deputies who attended the debate unanimously recommended that the USSR Supreme Soviet endorse Mikhail Fedorovich Nenashev as chairman of the USSR Gosteleradio.

[Ptashnikov] Aleksandr, what else that was interesting happened today during the sittings of the chambers of the USSR Supreme Soviet?

[Ruvinskiy] Well, you know, a lot of candidacies were examined. For example, Aleksandra Pavlovna Biryukova, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, proposed to the deputies of the inter-chamber committees Yevgeniy Ivanovich Chazov for the office of USSR Minister of Health. [passage omitted] Listen to Comrade Chazov's reply to a question from Deputy Desyatov from Komsomolsk-on-Amur.

[Begin Chazov recording] The first question is on AIDS. I will give my answer: I have never said that we do not fear AIDS. To the contrary, in all my statements since I have been minister, I have said that we must be ready to solve the AIDS problem. What has been done? At the present time, an organizational system to ensure control over the situation connected with AIDS has been created. Today this comprises our Central Institute of Epidemology; republican centers which on instruction from us must be organized in every republic; and 480 diagnostic laboratories for research into AIDS have been set up today. I must report that 30,000,608 people have been examined for AIDS. Of these, 18,300 are donors, bearing in mind that AIDS is carried through the blood; in other words, all donors are today being examined for AIDS. Pregnant women are also being examined for AIDS. I can report today that we have 269 fit carriers of the infection, and 11 sick persons. I have to report that a special commission of the Politburo, chaired by Comrade Slyunkov, has been set up, which recently—just 2 months ago—listened to a question on the state of the situation on AIDS, and a follow-up one will be heard in

October. In addition, a special scientific committee has been set up at the State Committee for Science and Technology, headed by Academician Petrov, vice president of the Academy of Sciences, to do research into AIDS. [end recording]

[Ruvinskiy] It just remains for me to say that the deputies recommended Comrade Chazov to the post of Health Minister.

[Ptashnikov] Aleksandr, I have this question: Were all the proposed candidacies recommended by the deputies for endorsement?

[Ruvinskiy] No, you know the discussions on by no means all the candidates went as smoothly. The candidacy of Marat Vladimirovich Gramov as chairman of the USSR State Committee for Sport was discussed. The deputies, who comprised two committees, that on Protection of the People's Health and that on Youth Affairs, asked a number of questions of the government candidate-member. But, clearly, Comrade Gramov's replies did not appear convincing and constructive to them. And the committees did not recommend Comrade Gramov for endorsement to the post of chairman of the USSR State Committee for Sport. [passage omitted]

Approvals, Rejections Reviewed

PM2306105589 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
23 Jun 89 Morning Edition pp 1, 3

[V. Dolganov and A. Stepovoy report: "In the USSR Supreme Soviet Committees and Commissions: Who Will Be in the Government?"]

[Text] A tense atmosphere prevails every day in the USSR Supreme Soviet committees and commissions which are discussing the candidacies of prospective members of the government. Issues are raised especially sharply in cases concerning sectors which were considered of secondary importance in the recent past and were, therefore, supplied and financed according to the notorious residual principle.

Judging by the heated passions in the hall, the members of the country's newly elected parliament intend to prove that issues concerning the social development of the country, the republics, and individual regions listed in their election campaign programs are more than just declarations made to help them win a deputy's mandate. Every fresh sitting (and they are held virtually without any fixed procedural rules or any restrictions on the list of speakers) proves: The USSR people's deputies intend to attach paramount importance to problems of social security and social justice and to struggle for the real enhancement of the people's living standards and their physical and moral health, radically reviewing the prevailing approaches in the process.

The discussion of the candidacy of Academician L. Abalkin for the office of deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers proceeded without any complications at all in the Kremlin. Leonid Ivanovich is one of those who—with their intense scientific work and press articles on current affairs—advanced the onset of restructuring and are now actively fighting for it. The quest for new paths in the development of the economy and as regards the social sphere is typical of him. A joint sitting of several USSR Supreme Soviet committees decided to recommend L. Abalkin for the high government position. This is the first occasion in our history when such a high-ranking scientist has been recommended as deputy head of government.

Academician Ye. Chazov, candidate for the office of USSR minister of health, did not have an easy time. He spent 2 days delivering a report and answering questions—first at a sitting of the USSR Supreme Soviet Committee for the Protection of the People's Health, and then at a joint sitting of that committee and some other committees in charge of questions concerning social development; family, mother, and child protection; the ecology....

Many deputies emphasized that it is absurd to lay on Ye. Chazov, who worked as USSR minister of health for just 2 years, all the blame for the lamentable state of this most important sector or for mistakes made by his predecessors who did their work inconsistently and in many cases even incompetently. Nonetheless, they did not completely exonerate the candidate minister for a series of serious errors committed in the recent past. A very serious discussion developed about the need to create a uniform extradepartmental sanitary and epidemiology service, to develop an action program for health protection organs in emergency situations, and to effectively monitor the ecological purity of foodstuffs, the atmosphere, and water.

Just as in the past, physicians and nurses are extremely overworked and the salaries of paramedic personnel are low. The availability of material and technical supplies for medical institutions lags behind world standards.

Therefore some deputies expressed their disagreement with the proposed candidacy. But Academician Ye. Chazov was recommended for the position of USSR minister of health by a majority of votes.

The discussion of M. Gramov's candidacy for the office of chairman of the USSR State Committee for Physical Culture and Sports set some sort of record in the work of our new parliament. Deputies spent a total of more than 6 hours over 2 days talking about serious errors committed in the development of mass physical culture and sports, about the glitter of gold medals and records which have become a goal in themselves and have superseded concern for the physical development of millions of people. Members of the Committee for the Protection of the People's Health under the chairmanship of Yu.

Borodin failed to come to any conclusion on the 1st day. The questions was postponed until a joint sitting of that committee with the Youth Affairs Committee.

Deputies V. Savinykh, Z. Prikhodko, I. Pavlevich, B. Rogatin, V. Minin, and many others spoke with alarm about the decline of mass physical culture and the lack of proper sports facilities, equipment, footwear, and clothing.

But, to all intents and purposes, the speech by Deputy I. Bogdanov, director of a general education school in Gorkiy and a sportsman in the past, took the form of a coreport—aimed, however, against the candidate.

There was simply no clarification of the question concerning the budget of the USSR State Committee for Physical Culture and Sports, and especially the maintenance of the thousands-strong management apparatus in central, republic, and local leadership organs.

As a result of the discussions the deputies expressed the opinion: M. Gramov is not to be recommended for the office of chairman.

Just as it was in the Kremlin, in the hall of sittings of the USSR Supreme Soviet chambers where the committees whose work we have described were sitting, the atmosphere at No 4/22 Kalinin Boulevard was businesslike and tense. Members of the Committee for Science, Public Education, Culture, and Upbringing, and the Soviet of Nationalities Commission for Consumer Goods, Trade, and Municipal, Consumer, and Other Services to the Population, were meeting together for the first time.

They were also thoroughly prepared for the procedure for discussing the candidacies of prospective members of the government. Specifically, the Committee for Science, Public Education, Culture, and Upbringing was due to confirm the chairmen of the USSR State Committees for Computer Technology and Information Science, for Public Education, and for Science and Technology.

Room No 442, where the Commission for Nationalities Policy and Interethnic Relations and the Commission for Questions of the Development of Culture, Language, National and International Traditions, and Protection of the Historical Heritage were sitting, was literally packed to capacity. In addition to members of these commissions and some members of the Committee for Science, Public Education, Culture, and Upbringing, members of the Youth Affairs Committee also arrived there following the conclusion of their own sitting.

They all intended to take an active part in the discussion of V. Zakharov's candidacy, since many of them are directly involved with problems of cultural development. The discussion proceeded until I. Bisher, deputy chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities, who was in the chair, announced that only members of Soviet of Nationalities commissions are entitled to vote on the minister's confirmation. This produced a certain confusion and then protest by a number of people's deputies and members of the Youth Affairs Committee and the Committee for Science, Public Education, Culture, and Upbringing.

The majority of the members of the Soviet of Nationalities commissions had no objection to their fellow deputies taking part in the vote, but the chairman insisted on observance of the procedural rules. There ensued a debate on the legal status of decisions by commissions and committees. But so what, nowadays many things are being done for the first time....

I. Bisher proposed to the participants in the unscheduled debate to nonetheless make a recommendation decision on the candidacy of the minister of culture. He reminded them that the Supreme Soviet's 26 June session will confirm the composition of commissions and committees and their decisions will acquire legal effect. This explanation did not placate some people's deputies, and deputies from other committees left the hall. For the first time in the practice of the new USSR Supreme Soviet the vote was by roll call. V. Zakharov's candidacy failed to gain a majority of votes in a single commission. The deputies had been scheduled to examine A. Kamshalov's candidacy for the position of chairman of the USSR State Committee for Cinematography at the same sitting, but this procedure was also postponed for the same reasons.

The sitting of the Committee for Construction and Architecture Questions was chaired by B.N. Yeltsin. The committee members invited the following candidates for ministerial office: V. Konovalov for medium machine building, M. Shchadov for the coal industry, and P. Polad-Zade for water resources construction, as well as V. Gribov, contender for the position of chairman of the USSR State Bank Board. They listened attentively to the candidates' briefings on the state of affairs in the sectors and the solution of social problems.

The candidates for high state office behaved differently. V. Konovalov and M. Shchadov gave precise and clear answers, knew the problems in their sectors, and, on the whole, made a favorable impression on committee members. At the same time, P. Polad-Zade and V. Gribov failed to gain recommendations for their confirmation by the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The members of the Soviet of Nationalities Commission for Consumer Goods, Trade, and Municipal, Consumer, and Other Services to the Population had intended to devote their first sitting to solving their own commission's organizational questions. The plan had to be changed on the spot: They were addressed by a group of Muscovites demanding not only the imposition of order in the trade in wine and vodka products, but the introduction of a "dry law" in the capital.

"We find these measures unrealistic," Commission Chairman G. Kiselev said. "We all have already had an opportunity to see for ourselves the impotence and pointlessness of prohibiting sales. Only educational measures aimed against drunkenness and alcoholism are in a position to change things for the better. We must work on this."

The USSR Supreme Soviet will examine all commission and committee decisions and recommendations at its session. None other than the members of its chambers will ultimately decide whether various appointments will actually materialize. But the initial results already indicate that the deputies are approaching their work with exceptional responsibility. They refuse to automatically vote for the candidacies of members of the government and check each contender against a sort of "restructuring indicator"—the ability to think in the new fashion, to perceive the immediate and longer-term prospects of the country's life, and to seek a way out of the complex situation in which our society has found itself.

Candidates for 'Key' Posts Rejected

LD2206133289 Moscow World Service in English 1100 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] The standing Soviet parliamentary committees and commissions are discussing noiminees for the key government posts. For the first time in the Supreme Soviet, this has been turned from a short ritual procedure to a detailed critical analysis. The candidate for the chair of the State Food Supplies and Purchases Commission, Vladimir Kalashnikov, has been rejected, as he failed to produce any new ideas for solving acute social and economic problems. Other failures were Marat Gramov, former chairman of the Sports Committee, and Vladimir Gribov, nominated as director of the State Bank. Nearly all deputies voted for Leonid Abalkin, member of the Academy of Sciences, nominated to chair the state commission to the economic reforms.

Hearings Proceed 'Energetically'

LD2206223489 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Excerpt] [Presenter Pavel Kasparov] The committees of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the commissions of its chambers continued their work today. I shall now ask our commentator Marina Novitskaya to report on the proceedings. If you please, Marina.

[Novitskaya] Well, first I want to remind you that 14 committees of the Supreme Soviet have been formed, and eight commissions of the chambers. All of them are now energetically at work, so it is impossible, of course, to speak about all of today's hearings. However, as you are aware, the main content of their work this week is consideration of the candidates for the posts of members of the government—ministers and heads of departments. This is happening for the first time in the entire history of our parliament, and I would say that this consideration of the candidates is being carried out in a critical, thoughtful, and very exacting way.

Consider just the following: Yuriy Dmitriyevich Maslyukov was presented to the deputies today. He is due—if of course he is endorsed by the USSR Supreme Soviet—to fill the post of first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Planning Committee. Well, the discussion of his candidacy lasted 5 hours. The deputies were interested in literally everything, including global problems, the correlation between centralized planning and the economic independence of republics, regions, and individual enterprises, and also very immediate measures to alleviate our many shortages.

[Kasparov] Well, judging by the fact that this discussion was so lengthy, the question was probably asked, Marina, whether in general this centralized state planning is necessary.

[Novitskaya] This question was foreseen by Yuriy Dmitriyevich Maslyukov and here is his reply. Let us listen to it:

[Begin Maslyukov recording] Naturally, centralized state planning, or it might be truer to say a correct correlation between centralized state planning and market instruments, and the finding of this correct correlation, is at present the paramount task for the State Planning Committee and certainly for the government.

The most important thing that I think applies to the function of the statewide centralized approach is the formulation of goals and priorities in the development of the economy, and hence the formulation of the structural policy, investment policy, and scientific-technical and social policies. These matters, on the basis of a thorough analysis of the state of affairs—which must of course be carried out by a professional collective with the involvement of science—are of course the prerogative of the central body of state planning. The second major function of centralized planning, from my point of view, is to establish economic methods of influencing the market, in such a way that the fulfillment of set state tasks is ensured. This must be ensured by financial credit, taxation, and pricing instruments.

Therefore, if one is to sum up the attitude of the State Planning Committee and, so to speak, my vision of how the State Planning Committee should operate, I would consider that the direct influence of planning indicators on the activities of enterprises should be restricted to the very minimum. Work with the center should be based solely on economic methods, and all matters regarding the formation of a plan and a concrete program, the possibilities for industrial and social development, and issues concerning earnings and so on, should be settled at the enterprise level. That is to say, the enterprise should be made a truly independent socialist producer of goods. [end recording]

[Kasparov] Well, that sounds convincing, but what did the deputies decide?

[Novitskaya] They decided to recommend that the USSR Supreme Soviet endorse Yuriy Dmitriyevich Maslyukov to the post of chairman of the State Planning Committee.

[Kasparov] I do not think that that exhausted today's program.

[Novitskaya] No, of course not. For example, the deputies considered and recommended for endorsement Comrade Voronin as first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers for general affairs, and Comrade Mostovoy as chairman of the State Committee for Material and Technical Supply.

With regard to the following candidate I would like to speak in a little more detail. As you know, for the first time a State Commission on Emergency Situations is being created in our country as part of the government.

[Kasparov] Yes, it is seen as being extremely necessary.

[Novitskaya] Yes, in recent years....

[Kasparov, interrupting] Misfortunes have simply been occurring one after the other.

[Novitskaya, continuing] ... we have been running into such situations too frequently. The list of them is mournfully long. Incidentally, however, such commissions exist in many of the world's countries.

[Kasparov] Yes, indeed. Well, who has been recommended for this post as chairman of the commission?

[Novitskaya] Vitaliy Khusseynovich Doguzhiyev has been recommended, and here is how he justified the need for the existence of a commission on emergency situations:

[Begin Doguzhiyev recording] Over a period of 20 years, natural disasters, excluding industrial accidents, have resulted throughout the world in the deaths of about 3 million people, and have inflicted damage on the stricken areas totalling about $100 billion. Indeed, in many countries a system for ensuring safety and eliminating consequences has been functioning for a long time, and is fairly smoothly organized. For instance, in countries such as the United States, Japan, the FRG, France, and Italy these systems are organized on a regional basis, and in the event of major accidents, and also in the case of international calamities, government bodies also become involved. That is to say, the involvement goes higher and higher. It seems to me that this system should be organized in a such a way in our country, too, with an all-union service, a republican service, and so on, down to town and rayon services.

As for the outlay on this system, one could go about it in the following way. Our idea already is that it would be possible to finance it partially out of the state budget, and partially through insurance premiums paid by particularly dangerous or simply dangerous enterprises, which need to be broken down by category. If they are particularly dangerous, they need to pay higher insurance premiums, and if they are less dangerous they need to pay lower insurance premiums.

There is, of course, a need for a system that could tackle three unified tasks: First, to warn about and anticipate in every way such situations; second, to eliminate the situation; and third, to eliminate the consequences of these situations. This is to say, we need to create a system that would enable one to think not only that we are intelligent—and the intelligent person finds a way out of every complex situation—but also that we are wise in not getting into these complex situations.

I realize that for this system to function it is first necessary for it to be well equipped technically. Naturally it is necessary that our system, especially the fast response system, be part of a world system. The main thing, of course—to round off the elaboration of this system, in order for it to function—must be the adoption of legislative acts. This may perhaps be, say, a law on ensuring the safety of the population in the event of industrial accidents, or a law on measures to combat natural disasters, or else some kind of unified and generalized law that would spell out duties, rights, and accountability. [end recording]

[Kasparov] Well, that was an interesting speech. As I understand it, the proceedings were then concerned with approving the candidates for the top posts. As far as I know, yesterday there were three unsuccessful candidates. What is the situation today?

[Novitskaya] We do not have any similar news today so far. Everything is proceeding successfully for all the candidates. However, if there is any such information, we shall report it in later bulletins.

[Kasparov] Well, how are the deputies in these commissions assessing their work?

[Novitskaya] I must say frankly that the competency of the deputies is simply striking. They are not accepting a candidate if he is only proposing a program for future activity. To their understanding, the future leader must have a concept for the development of the various sectors. There is an assessment, of course, of both personal qualities and moral positions. [passage omitted]

'Acuity of Debate' Remarked Upon

LD2206212389 Moscow TASS in English 1846 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow June 22 TASS—By TASS parliamentary correspondent reporting from the Kremlin:

The acuity of debate, unheard-of even by today's standards, gives us grounds to describe this day in the work of the chambers' commissions and committees of the Supreme Soviet (parliament) of the USSR as the most tense one. For over eight hours the deputies discussed the new composition of the Soviet government.

The deputies canvassed four candidates proposed for the posts of deputies to the chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR. The debate was at its most acrimonious around candidate Yuriy Maslyukov proposed for the post of Nikolay Ryzhkov's first deputy and chairman of the State Planning Committee of the USSR. The deputies' concern was quite natural: the economic situation in the country is more than complex and there are many grievances to air concerning the performance of the State Planning Committee (Gosplan). For over four hours Maslyukov found himself the target of "crossfire" from the people's deputies. He had to respond to the most varied questions, ranging from ways of forming the new economic mechanism to the reasons for the absence of soap and detergents in the shops. The candidate could not furnish exhaustive answers to all questions, especially those of a private nature, but what was attractive about his performance was a desire to work and cooperate with the parliament. "While previously there were only bosses above the Gosplan," Maslyukov said, "now it has an opponent who wishes to cooperate. This alliance of parliament and the executive branch is very important".

The sharp and at times quite impartial criticism of the Gosplan heard in statements by deputies did not prevent them from recommending by a majority of votes that Maslyukov be further confirmed at a session of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

Establishment of a direct link between the country's government and parliament is to become one of the chief functions of Lev Voronin, recommended to the new post of first deputy chairman of the government for general matters. Introducing Voronin to the deputies, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Ryzhkov described him as an "excellent short-distance runner", implying his precious qualities of a trouble-shooter. Today in the Kremlin Voronin lived up to this description: he beat others to the intermediate finish by getting unanimous support of the deputies. Incidentally, as one deputy put it, now Voronin faces the prospect of a long-distance run—so great and responsible are his new functions. These include coordination of all the work of the central economic [words indistinct] and of the country's national economy complexes and controlling compliance with government decisions.

Realization of the impossibility to deal with the consequences of disasters—both natural and caused by human error—without prior preparation has led to the thought about the need to have in the country's government a state commission for emergency situations. Its scope would include above all the establishment of a single disaster-prevention system and adoption of urgent measures to liquidate the consequences of such situations wherever they happened. Vitaliy Doguzhiyev, who previously dealt with development of space technologies, was proposed for the post of the leader of this commission. His convincingly substantiated programme of action gained today full approval of the deputies.

The participants in the meeting also decided to recommend that the session of the USSR Supreme Soviet confirm Pavel Mostovoy as deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR State Committee for Material and technical Supply.

Maslyukov, Voronin Nominated

LD2206140789 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] In the committees of the USSR Supreme Soviet and commissions of the chambers, discussions are continuing on the candidacies for the post of deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers, ministers and chairmen of the country's state committees.

Today the candidacy of Yuriy Dmitriyevich Maslyukov was put forward by Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov for the post of first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Gosplan. After an in-depth and thorough debate on his candidacy and an analysis of the economic prospects for the development of the national economy and numerous questions, the decision to recommend the candidacy of Comrade Maslyukov to the USSR Supreme Soviet for his confirmation for the office of first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Gosplan [State Planning Committee] was adopted by a majority vote.

In the second half of the day there began discussion of another candidacy for the office of first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers—Lev Alekseyevich Voronin. This candidacy was also recommended for confirmation to the Supreme Soviet by a majority vote.

Debates are now proceeding on the candidacy for the office of chairman of the USSR State Committee for Supply. Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov proposed for this office Pavel Ivanovich Mostovoy, who is currently working as chairman of the Ukrainian State Committee for Supply.

Maslyukov Nominated Gosplan Head

LD2206143989 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] [Announcer] Discussion continues today in the commissions of chambers and committees of the USSR Supreme Soviet of candidatures for posts of deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers and leaders of the country's ministries and departments.

Head of government Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov proposed the candidature of Yuriy Dmitriyevich Maslyukov at a joint meeting of two commissions and two committees for the post of first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Gosplan [State Planning Committee]. Defining the tasks which stand before the country's Gosplan, Comrade Ryzhkov said in particular:

[Begin Ryzhkov recording] I have to say that this is one of our most difficult departments, or the most difficult state committee, which in essence concentrates on all of our country's economic policy, and frankly speaking, it is also the most criticized committee in our state. No matter how much we criticize the Gosplan, until the economic situation changes, until economic reform puts everything in its right place—the responsibility, the rights and responsibilities of enterprises in all possible forms; the rights and responsibilities of republics; giving maximum freedom, economic freedom, to enterprises, organizations and regions—until that time, of course, the work of the Gosplan will proceed in that direction in which it went before. Nevertheless we think that as we move forward and we are now already feeling that the Gosplan is changing style and methods of work, because life is making us deal with this matter. We think that the Gosplan should continue to carry out its regulating functions, but not in the way it did before, when it planned everything, and everyone thought that everything had been written down from above, and that meant that there would be everything.

We think that the functions should be completely different. They should be extended globally so that they can regulate the economic strategy that we have worked out, and which we now need to make more precise. In my view we could indeed create such a model, an economic model, which would be characteristic of us, without exactly copying, let's say, the capitalist model, without copying a harsh planning model which existed in our country and in other countries, but creating, namely, our own flexible but regulated system which would be directed at resolving those questions facing our society.

Today, the main question standing before our society is to accelerate the well-being of our people. We must turn the economy on to precisely this road and this can be precisely adjusted by major national economic proportions. [end recording]

After deep and thorough discussion, which continued for more than 4 hours, by a majority of votes a decision was adopted to recommend to the USSR Supreme Soviet Comrade Maslyukov for appointment to the post of first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR's Gosplan.

Maslyukov Interviewed on Candidacy

LD2206214289 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 22 Jun 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpts] [Announcer] Only one thing has perhaps been determined up to the present day in the work of the committees and the commissions of the Supreme Soviet: the length of time that the candidates will be allowed to speak: 3 hours. What neither we nor even the deputies of the Supreme Soviet can say precisely is what the results of the election will be. [passage omitted] [video shows Maslyukov being interviewed by unidentified correspondent]

[Begin recording] [Correspondent] How do you explain such a large number of negative speeches?

[Maslyukov] I think that first of all it is the work I personally have not carried out well. After all, I self-critically have to admit that there is a great deal of such work. The second thing is that I am being put forward for the most unpopular post in the Soviet Union, the head of the most unpopular organization. For that reason, all this has probably played its role. Of course, the most important thing is the state of the economy today. It is necessary to take very many measures, very tough ones, and not always popular ones. In the country so many problems have accumulated that it will still be necessary to rake them away for many long years. I think it is necessary for the State Planning Committee to work a great deal on the creation of a civilized procedure of managing the economy, not a forcible procedure, not an adminstrative command procedure, but relying on economic methods. [end recording]

[Announcer] Yuriy Dmitriyevich Maslyukov has been recommended for the post of first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Planning Committee. The deputies supported the candidature of Comrade Voronin for the post of first deputy chairman on general matters, and the candidatures of comrades Mostovoy and Doguzhiyev to the posts of deputy chairmen. [video shows Maslyukov talking to deputies, scenes of the meeting] [passage omitted] The work of the permanent commissions and committees of the USSR Supreme Soviet is continuing.

Maslyukov Notes Economic Objectives

LD2306041889 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0000 GMT 23 Jun 89

[Text] [Announcer] The USSR Supreme Soviet committees and the standing commissions of the chambers are continuing to discuss the candidates for the posts of deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers, ministers, and chairmen of the state committees. In particular, it was recommended to the USSR Supreme Soviet yesterday that it confirm Yuriy Dmitriyevich Maslyukov as first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Gosplan. In laying out to the deputies his concept for the activities of the Gosplan, Comrade Maslyukov particularly singled out short-term measures which, in his view, would make it possible to normalize the consumer market more quickly and win time for in-depth restructuring of the economy.

[Begin Maslyukov recording] First, maximum increase in the production of consumer goods in existing capacities by expanding the latter and, most importantly, enhancing output quality. The second strand is maximum backup for all building projects and all facilities requiring capital investment for the production of consumer goods above all, and the allocation of resources for this above all. These facilities should, of course, be built in as short a time as possible. Third, we have to pass as quickly as possible through the period of conversion of the defense industry and the adaptation of the capacities being made available for the needs of consumer goods production and civilian industry. We estimate that the defense industries should increase consumer goods production by R15 billion before the current 5-year period ends in 1990. And over the 5 years of the next 5-year period they should achieve growth of around R100 billion worth of consumer goods.

Fourth, it is essential for us to learn and implement as fast as possible a whole range of measures for drawing the population's resources into economic circulation on terms that are beneficial for the population. I would mention shares, bonds, special purpose investments [tselevyye vklady], the development of individual labor activities, cooperatives, and many other issues.

The fifth issue is that one cannot, of course, disregard the need to increase purchases of consumer goods for import, though I believe it is impossible to fully solve the problem in this way—it would probably be madness as well, since none of us has the right to ignore the real (?structure) of the country's balance of payments.

Sixth and perhaps most importantly—maximum (?exposure) of outlay based investment. We see the way out of this situation in drawing up a special inventory, involving the Supreme Soviet and the commissions...a detailed inventory of all current building projects. We have to make an inventory of all facilities under construction in line with previous government decisions. We also have to stop, to terminate the giant projects that we are incapable of commissioning today and that will provide returns after the year 2005. It is my view that we have to direct all our resources toward ensuring that the 13th 5-year period becomes a 5-year plan of normalization of our economic mechanism, of our economy. [end recording]

Ryzhkov Interviewed on Forming New Government

LD2206203289 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 1900 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] The chairman of the Soviet Council of Ministers, Nikolay Ryzhkov, has said that the discussion of the new makeup of the cabinet by parliamentary commissions is the beginning of a new and very big process in the history of this country.

In an interview with Radio Moscow he said we have never had such an order of forming the government or such a thorough discussion at the Supreme Soviet. Each candidate is discussed in a very interested, heated, and emotional way. The head of government was fully satisfied with the informal approach demonstrated by the deputies.

Sometimes many questions were put which the candidate found difficult to answer. Some questions aroused bitterness because the government had done much to solve them but probably not enough. When the deputies saw that the candidate for this or that post was competent, well educated, and had the appropriate professional and human qualities, they were very objective in their assessments, Nikolay Ryzhkov noted.

The new cabinet is to be approved by the Supreme Soviet that begins its session in Moscow on Monday.

Comments on Committee Candidates

LD2206220789 Moscow World Service in English 2010 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Report on interview with USSR Prime Minister Nikolay Ryzhkov by unidentified Moscow Radio reporter; date, place not specified; recorded]

[Text] [First announcer] The Soviet Prime Minister Nikolay Ryzhkov has, at a request from a Radio Moscow reporter, commented on the discussion of candidates for ministerial posts in the standing committees of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

[Begin recording] [Second announcer, reading English translation of Ryzhkov's response to question; Ryzhkov's voice in Russian heard in backgound] I believe that discussions were very unusual. I recall the way the previous Supreme Soviet worked and endorsed national governments. I can say that the current discussion of a future Soviet government differs in principle from what we had before. It is something unprecedented. True, government officials still have no experience of reporting to the deputies. The deputies themselves lack experience in discussing government officials. All this is a reason for a certain shortage of organization. However, I am very calm about it because we have chosen the correct strategy.

[Reporter's question] What does Prime Minister Ryzhkov like about the discussion most of all?

[Ryzhkov's response] First, the deputies have great interest in what they do. There has been no nomination without thorough and emotional debates. At the same time the deputies seek to make certain issues clear, to find out the position of contenders and supply them with recommendations. The contenders have had to behave accordingly. I believe that from the very first day of debates on candidates for ministers and deputy ministers one was able to feel a new climate. The contenders realized at once that a serious dialogue was underway between them and those who were supposed to rate their competence.

I am fully satisfied, Nikolay Ryzhkov went on to say, with the interested approach displayed by the deputies. In some cases they put many questions candidates found difficult to answer. Other questions caused a feeling of bitterness because the government had done a great deal in a bid to solve certain problems. Apparently that was not enough and the deputies were very critical. Secondly I am satisfied with the fact that the candidates for government posts showed their competence. When the deputies were able to see that this or that contender was really competent, educated and well trained, as well as displayed appropriate personal qualities, their assessment was impartial.

These are my first impressions of the standing committees of the Supreme Soviet. I believe that this is the beginning of a new and epoch making process in the history of the nation. Before we could only hear of that way of appointing candidates for government posts, now we have been able to test it on ourselves. [end recording]

Mironenko Comments on Youth Affairs Committee

LD2206203189 Moscow TASS in English 1958 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow June 22 TASS—The working out of an integral policy of the state with regard to youth is the main purpose of the Committee for Affairs of Youth formed at the USSR Supreme Soviet early in June. Viktor Mironenko, USSR people's deputy, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Lenin Young Communist League, told this a news conference here today.

He said that the creation of such a committee without precedent in the country's history is not a political improvisation but a logical development of the ideas advanced by young people in the course of perestroyka. They proclaimed the need to create a legal mechanism for implementing youth policy. The creation of such a mechanism has become a political reality due to the decisions of the 19th All-Union Party Conference, of the Congress of USSR People's Deputies, Mironenko said. The main role is played in this by the law on youth shortly to be submitted for the discussion of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The committee's chairman Valeriy Tsybukh told the news conference that this new body of Soviet parliament is to regulate relations between the state and youth by means of legal mechanisms. In other words, the state's youth policy will be implemented on the basis of laws formulated by the country's parliament. The committee counts on close cooperation with sociologists, jurists, economists, journalists for profound study of youth problems.

Young deputies of the Soviet parliament also intend to participate in the drafting of state plans of social and economic development, submitting proposals on aspects related to youth. Control of the observance of laws related to youth will also be an important aspect of the committee's work.

Otsybukh said that there are 41 people on the committee. They include representatives of 15 nationalities and reflect the social composition of Soviet youth. Their average age is around thirty. Working bodies, for instance, subcommittees for socio-economic problems of youth, and for problems of the young family might be formed within the committee.

Lapygin Interviewed on Security Chairmanship

PM2306095989 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Jun 89 First Edition pp 1-2

[Interview with V.L. Lapygin, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Committee for Questions of Defense and State Security, by correspondent Lieutenant Colonel V. Kosarev: "From Positions of New Thinking"; place, date not given; first two paragraphs are KRASNAYA ZVEZDA introduction]

[Text] The Committee for Questions of Defense and State Security, created by decision of the Congress of USSR People's Deputies, has begun its work. As is known, Hero of Socialist Labor, Doctor of Technical Sciences, Professor Vladimir Lavrentyevich Lapygin, director and general designer of the Automatic Equipment and Instrument-Making Science-and-Production Association (Moscow) and holder of the Lenin and State Prizes, was elected its chairman.

Taking readers' wishes into account, our correspondent interviewed him.

[Kosarev] Vladimir Lavrentyevich, this is the first time a Committee for Questions of Defense and State Security has been formed in the highest organ of state power. And the interest that KRASNAYA ZVEZDA readers have in this committee and in yourself, its chairman, is quite understandable. But the general reader and, I admit, I myself know nothing about you except that you are "a great, very great designer" working in "a sphere connected with both military and civilian production," as you were introduced at the First USSR Supreme Soviet Session at the time of your election. This is, you will agree, very scant information for the period of glasnost, even taking into account the specific nature of your activity. Please say something about yourself.

[Lapygin] Where shall I begin? I was born into a peasant family in the village of Arkhangelskoye, Tula Oblast, in 1925. My father soon moved to Moscow and requalified as a construction worker. When he was settled, he took us to the capital. In 1941, after graduating from the eighth grade, I entered a Moscow aircraft plant as an apprentice copper worker and assembler. Thus, generally by chance but, as it turned out, for my whole life I tied my destiny to the creation of aircraft. I worked throughout the war at that plant, which produced IL ground-attack aircraft. After the end of the war I enrolled on a preparatory course at Moscow Aviation Institute, completed it, took the matriculation examination for those completing 10 years' secondary school, and became a student of Moscow Aviation Institute.

For prediploma practical work I was sent to a scientific research institute which was engaged in developing control systems for rocket technology. And I stayed there after graduating from the institute. I had the good fortune to work with a whole series of remarkable scientists, designers, and engineers. I would like especially to mention one of them—Nikolay Alekseyevich Pilyugin, under whose leadership I worked from 1953. It was he who headed the work on creating control systems for carrier rockets, spacecraft, and automatic interplanetary stations, created the theory of planning aircraft precision control systems, and substantiated methods of analyzing and synthesizing complex dynamic systems. Many of his discoveries and design solutions were used in the creation of the Buran orbital spacecraft, whose onboard control complex was developed and perfected by our association's collective in recent years. In this collective and with these people I have gone from being an ordinary engineer to being general designer.

[Kosarev] How much of a surprise to you was your election to the post of committee chairman? How did it happen?

[Lapygin] I would say it was a complete surprise. When I, like all the other deputies, had to choose which committee or commission to work on, I named the Committee for Questions of Defense and State Security without thinking about it, as I have always been connected with the defense industry. Shortly before the joint sitting of the chambers Rafik Nishanovich Nishanov, chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities, reported that the deputies were of a mind to propose that I head this committee. I did not object. And I was elected at the session.

I will say frankly that the new post has taken me very much aback. There is more than enough to do in our science-and-production association. The workday runs, as a rule, from 0830 through 2100. And we frequently include Saturdays....

[Kosarev] Will you combine the duties of committee chairman with your former post or?...

[Lapygin] I would not like to leave my main job. Our association has a strong management apparatus, and I have experienced deputies, so it is possible to combine the two jobs. I will endeavor to organize the committee's work so that all its members actively fulfill their functions.

[Kosarev] Many complex problems have accumulated in our society—"sores" of a kind, which have long been in need of treatment. Certain deputies regard the creation of committees and commissions in the new parliament—and you felt this from their Congress speeches—almost as a universal panacea. What do you think about this?

[Lapygin] Yes, there are more than enough problems, and they were spoken of openly at the Congress. This very openness is to some extent a guarantee that they will be resolved. And yet, in order to see things through to the end, we must know just what we want. I cannot claim that we are totally clear on all questions. I cannot agree, for example, with the viewpoint of a number of deputies from the Baltic republics—representatives of indigenous nationalities—who, while campaigning for their republics' sovereignty and independence, in point of fact encroach on the rights of ethnic minorities living on their republics' territories. Do the new language laws not infringe these rights to some extent? Some people seem to see sovereignty and independence only in the possibility of seceding from the union.

It is a pity that the peoples' equality and their right to independence remained empty declarations in our Constitution for long years and served as symbols of a kind. But has it not become clear now that the state's integrity can be preserved only by taking a constructive path, through democracy, glasnost, mutual understanding, cooperation, and dialogue, as M.S. Gorbachev said in his concluding speech at the Congress of USSR People's Deputies? I believe that the Commission for Nationalities Policy and Interethnic Relations will concentrate its efforts precisely on the search for this path. Of course, this is a complex matter. And we must not expect this task to be resolved very quickly. The same applies to other complex problems of our life and the activities of other committees and commissions.

[Kosarev] It would, of course, be premature to speak of any integral program of your committee. And yet, what are its basic duties, and what tasks will it resolve?

[Lapygin] The chief aim is, of course, to strengthen the country's defense and to control the executive organs operating in this area. One of the most important tasks is to elaborate legislative policy, which will make it possible, on the one hand, to ensure our state's security interests and, on the other, to ensure that these interests do not transcend the limits of reasonable sufficiency. We will organize our work on the basis of the principles of the new political, military, and economic thinking. Such approaches to Soviet defense building make it possible to reduce military spending on the basis of imparting a new quality to our Armed Forces without harming the USSR's defense capability.

The committee will examine very important programs for the development of the Army and Navy and the branches and categories of troops with due regard for our military doctrine and their reasonable and reliable sufficiency to ensure strategic stability in the world and to guarantee the security of the Soviet Union and its allies. We will analyze how the demands connected with enhancing quality parameters in military building are being realized. To this end we will listen to the defense minister, other ministers working for defense, and top military leaders. If necessary, we will go out to the troops and to defense industry enterprises. We will promptly resolve various specific questions connected with the development of the Armed Forces and the rational use of the military budget.

I think the first thing we will do will be to endeavor to understand what our Army is like from the viewpoint of combat ability, equipment, and personnel training in comparison with the armies of other states—both socialist and capitalist—with regard to observing parity. This analysis will produce a great deal.

[Kosarev] Vladimir Lavrentyevich, you are a scientist, a specialist in the sphere of creating new equipment. But do you know life in the Army and the Armed Forces' problems connected with the human factor—social problems, for example?

[Lapygin] I must tell you that I served just 20 days in the Army—on a training course when I was a student. This is so—a biographical fact. I have encountered the Army and personnel when I have traveled to test ranges to test new equipment, I have observed the work of officers, sergeants, and soldiers, and I have cooperated closely with them.

[Kosarev] Have you seen how people are fixed, how they live? Do you know what is of concern to them?

[Lapygin] In general, I do have a conception of these problems. I consider the most acute among them to be questions connected, for example, with the arrival of the new contingent. I know that it leaves much to be desired in terms of its development and state of health. Discipline and nonregulation relations constitute a second range of problems. Much is being written about this now.

[Kosarev] Concern is aroused by the fact that servicemen and members of their families are very poorly protected socially compared with other sections of society. The result is violations of the principles of social justice, difficulties with the provision of housing and with preschool establishments, and the moral oppression that is particularly characteristic of certain parts of the country. More than 100,000 officers and their families do not have their own corner today.

[Lapygin] Yes, this was spoken of at the Congress. The Army is now being cut. Everything connected with this must be well thought out—moving people, finding employment for them... There are many problems here. The government has adopted relevant decisions, and they must be fulfilled.

[Kosarev] Will the committee tackle these questions?

[Lapygin] I think so.

[Kosarev] During the discussion of your candidacy at the First USSR Supreme Soviet Session certain deputies maintained that the committee must exercise control over the Army. You too have just spoken of the need for control. What do you mean by this?

[Lapygin] It is not a question of control in the usual sense of the word—we have quite a lot of various control organs. I believe that the committee must control the Armed Forces' state of combat readiness, that is, control the chief thing most rigorously [po bolshomu schetu] and jointly bear responsibility.

[Kosarev] How do you, as a professional "defense boffin," if I may put it like that, view the problems of conversion?

[Lapygin] I am convinced that conversion is a command of the times. The military industry must be involved in resolving peaceful tasks. But it is necessary to take a very well considered, reasonable approach to this, maintaining all relevant proportions. We cannot permit unilateral disarmament and must not forget the country's security. Therefore it is necessary to formulate the correct policy with regard to switching some of our defense plants to civilian needs.

[Kosarev] I would like to know how the committee is made up. The opinion was voiced at the session that it includes too many representatives of the "military-industrial complex" (19 people out of 38). Individual deputies even suggested removing professional military people from the committee.

[Lapygin] The staffing was based, above all, on the desire of deputies to work on a particular committee or commission. I consider that complaints about the composition are invalid. How can we work if the committee does not include knowledgeable people, such as, for example, Marshal of the Soviet Union S.F. Akhromeyev, USSR

Deputy Defense Minister Army General V.M. Shabanov, and regimental commanding officers V.N. Ochirov and R.S. Aushev? Readiness to join the committee was expressed by Ye.P. Velikhov, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences; A.V. Gaponov-Grekhov, director of the USSR Academy of Sciences Applied Physics Institute; G.V. Novozhilov, general designer at Moscow's Ilyushin Machine-Building Plant; A.P. Klautsen, first secretary of Riga Latvian Communist Party City Committee; I.I. Gorelovskiy, chairman of the Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic KGB; V.A. Biryukov, fitter at a metallurgical plant; and other people well known in the country.

It is gratifying that many young deputies—both military people and civilians—seek to cooperate with us. I believe that all the new parliament's organs will work in close connection, and so we will attract specialists from other committees and commissions. But in general I must say that we will rely in our activity on all active forces in society. For it is up to every Soviet citizen to strengthen the country's defense capability and ensure its security.

Observer Examines Congress's World Significance

PM2206110789 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Jun 89 Second Edition p 4

[Political observer Vitaliy Korionov article: "Henceforth and Forever"]

[Text] Many political observers have described the Congress of USSR People's Deputies as an historic crossroads. This is not a groundless assertion. Having turned into a tribune for free comparison of views and opinions, the congress brought our country to a new stage in the development of democracy and glasnost.

The spirit which began to assert itself in our socialist parliament gives rise to a certain sense of envy among strata of the population in Western countries which often find themselves on the fringes of their version of democracy. For example, a typical letter was written by P. Bicknell, a reader of Britain's THE TIMES, which was published by the newspaper under the headline "Lessons From Russia." "What a pity," he wrote, "that the 'Mother of Parliaments' won't give as good an example of democracy in action when our own House of Commons is eventually televised."

At this point, however, I would like to touch on the following aspect of the question. Of course, we still have to learn democracy and to develop standards of political debate. But does this mean we have to copy all usages and methods of bourgeois parliamentarianism, and even duplicate its negative manifestations? It is, after all, impossible to overlook the fact that the process of curtailing the civil rights of entire categories of working people is continuing in Western countries to the accompaniment of the most "democratic" debates possible.

Of course, the birth of a socialist parliament with a fundamentally different essence is an event of paramount importance. The arbitrariness of the personality cult period destroyed the shoots of socialist democracy which were brought to life by October, while the time of stagnation consolidated the autocracy of the administrative edict system. The consequences are well known. The country found itself in a phase of economic crisis. Soviet society ended up in the grips not only of apathy and indifference but also of social tension.

The negative processes within Soviet society certainly affected our country's international positions. The distortion of the image of socialism, which unfortunately also occurred in a number of socialist countries, led to a decline of the new social system's prestige and this certainly created some difficulties, especially for the world communist movement.

The fact that dogmatism and subjectivist approaches left a certain imprint on our foreign policy is equally important. No, the socialist principles of Soviet foreign policy remained and still are immutable. Nonetheless, much that was stagnant and obsolete accumulated in the sphere of diplomacy. The attention given to political means for solving questions was less than it should have been. Consequently we found ourselves involved in an exhausting arms race. The consequences of some foreign policy actions were not fully calculated.

It was only natural that none of this was overlooked by the Congress of People's Deputies. The fundamental importance of the congress lies in the fact that it mapped out the main landmarks along the country's way out of this labyrinth of problems. But let us not succumb to illusions. The congress did not have at its disposal a magic wand to wave and produce right away solutions to, for example, the economic problems which so sharply affect the whole people. But the congress laid down primarily a political approach to the solution of these problems and elaborated a package of immediate practical measures.

The force which gave the Congress of People's Deputies an opportunity to do this was the CPSU. Let us say it bluntly: There is a lot of talk nowadays around the question of the CPSU's role in Soviet society. There are certain forces which engage in direct attacks on the CPSU, using the mistakes committed by it as a pretext. But is there anyone who could name even a single political party in the world which has not committed mistakes in its practical activity? The following question is also legitimate: Is it possible to make use of various miscalculations and errors to raise doubts about our people's historic accomplishments achieved under the CPSU's leadership?

The party will really perform its leading [vedushchaya] role only when it places the people's interests above all else. The country is now in a difficult situation. Is there another way out of it, apart from radical and decisive restructuring of all aspects of society's life? No, there is no other way out. The future of the people and of the country lies only along the paths of restructuring. But was it not the CPSU that initiated restructuring? Was the CPSU not the "think tank" of this, a hard process but the only possible one? If we are to remain realistic and honest with ourselves and with the people, it is impossible not to say this: Had it not been for the Central Committee April plenum, the 27th party congress, and the 19th party conference, the forum of people's deputies would hardly have taken place.

Deputies representing the grassroots strata of the people delivered truly remarkable speeches from the rostrum of the congress of deputies. These speeches confirmed: It is with the CPSU that our working people associate their main hopes for achieving a radical turnabout in the country's destiny. The CPSU has been and remains the political vanguard of Soviet society. But it will retain this role only if the restructuring within its own ranks outstrips restructuring within society.

The forum of people's deputies expressed active support for the foreign policy of the CPSU and the Soviet state. The message to the peoples of the world which it adopted says: "The congress solemnly assures the peoples of the planet that it takes on responsibility for the Soviet state's strict adherence to the principles of peaceful coexistence in relations with all states and peoples on Earth."

Ensuring our country's security primarily by political means; eliminating nuclear weapons as a result of talks; ruling out the use or threat of force; dialogue and talks as the sole method for solving international problems; organic involvement of the Soviet economy in the world economy—these are the fundamental foreign policy principles affirmed by the congress. The USSR is fully determined to adhere to this foreign policy strategy henceforth and forevermore.

The revolutionary process of restructuring is ever more tangibly materializing in specific deeds aimed at delivering mankind from the threat of a nuclear conflagration and at terminating the arms race, primarily the nuclear missile arms race.

The elimination of intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles is being implemented strictly in accordance with the schedule laid down by the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles. More than 1,200 intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles, as well as 200 launchers and 20 missile operating bases, have been eliminated in the year the treaty has been in force. A considerable quantity of specialized equipment, premises, and installations has already been handed over to the Soviet national economy during the last year. The U.S. side is also honoring the treaty's demands: It has eliminated more than 300 intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles.

The successful implementation of the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles proves: A growing number of real opportunities are becoming available to mankind to implement the new concept of security—mutual and indivisible security whose foundation comprises a steady decline in military confrontation and arms cutbacks until the total elimination of the threat of a war being unleashed through destruction of the actual means for waging war.

The USSR and its Warsaw Pact allies are placing new large-scale proposals on the scales for solving this task. It is well known that the socialist countries' delegations at the Vienna talks on conventional armed forces recently submitted basic guidelines concerning the level of initial accord on radical reductions of such arms by the Warsaw Pact Organization and NATO. These proposals envisage the establishment of equal collective limits which, in numerical terms, would not exceed 570,000 men, 420 strike combat aircraft in frontline (tactical) aviation, 800 combat helicopters, 8,700 tanks, 7,600 artillery units, and 14,500 armored combat vehicles. Nowadays the socialist countries' initiatives no longer remain unanswered. Specifically, it can be noted with gratification that the United States and NATO have finally agreed on personnel and weapons reductions in Europe.

The facts which testify to the Soviet Union's consistent implementation of its peace-loving foreign policy course convincingly tell our partners in the international arena: The Soviet Union has no other aspiration apart from the desire to live in peace and friendship with all countries, be they near or far. For a long time one of the main causes of international tension was the mistrust between countries with different social systems, based especially on claims about the notorious "iron curtain." These claims are also collapsing. Everyone can see now: The USSR is open to the whole world. But it is perfectly entitled to expect that the world would respond with reciprocity.

The Soviet restructuring is increasingly graphically becoming part of the democratization of the world order. It actively promotes the buildup of trust between states. U.S. President G. Bush said at a recent press conference: The work of the Congress of USSR People's Deputies confirmed the Soviet Union's commitment to new thinking. Welcoming the Soviet head of state in Bonn, FRG Chancellor H. Kohl said: "Your policy enjoys full approval in our country and among our allies and generates even greater enthusiasm."

Our friends throughout the world and our partners in the international arena need have no doubts regarding the openness and honesty of the line of the CPSU and the Soviet state.

Kondrashov Assesses Congress's Global Implications

PM2206110189 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Jun 89 Morning Edition p 1

[Article by Stanislav Kondrashov: "Congress and the World"]

[Text] The congress paid little attention to that half of the activity of the state and its leadership which is called foreign policy. And the explanation is not that the extensive zone beyond outside criticism still extends here. No, the zone has been reduced and invitations for criticism are heard regularly from the skyscraper on Smolenskaya-Sennaya Street. The explanation is that the foreign policy half of restructuring has been easier and more successful than the domestic policy half and has already brought real fruit in the form of favorable international conditions for domestic transformations.

The fatal global "to be or not to be" which clouded morale to the extreme in the early eighties has lost its keenness. The gloom of an inexorable doomsday has been dispelled. The people's deputies who gathered for their first congress were no longer perturbed by the question of how to survive in the nuclear age and in relations with distant and close foreign partners. Given the new political thinking and the relevant policy we will succeed in surviving. That devil "the other side of the hill" or across two oceans is not as terrible as we painted him when we believed in our own sanctity and too often ignored the command of common sense to live and let live. Stronger and more dangerous than external enemies are internal ones—deception and self-deception, the conceit and dullness of our own, not foreign bureaucracy, people's separation from the fruit of their labor and the national economy we have torn apart with our own hands in peace time. How to survive is not a task compared with the other task of how to live on our land and how to adjust our lives. These were the questions with which the congress was concerned.

Having ceased to be a bogey, the West has become a yardstick in many things which previously went unnoticed. For the first time the report of the head of government borrows from Western social vocabulary the concept of the poverty line and applies it to our poverty, our misfortune. It turns out that more people in our country live below this line than in the United States and the line itself has, alas, been drawn lower than the U.S. line because the Soviet subsistence wage is more modest than the subsistence wage across the ocean.

In the heat of the theoretical struggle against monopoly capital we somehow overlooked the emergence of our own, far more terrible, monopolies which took the consumer by the throat with shortages, poor quality, and high prices. And here is a tragicomic detail: The Council of Ministers is recruiting experts from the USSR Academy of Sciences United States and Canada Institute to draft—very belatedly—Soviet antimonopoly legislation. A people's deputy from Tashkent recalls the American south, describing how our champions of the single-crop system are mercilessly exploiting young Uzbeks on the cotton fields. A people's deputy from the Far East believes that the intervention of our ministries is more terrible than any foreign intervention, especially as they have already turned the Far East into a raw material appendage of foreign countries. A Siberian accuses the same departments of a colonial policy and the obvious consequences of this colonization which have already emerged are more pernicious than the imagined dangers from joint ventures with foreigners, which can always be placed under state control. An economist from Moscow says that nowhere in "the industrial world" is there such exploitation of working people as in our country because half as much of the GNP in the USSR goes on wages as "over there." And a Kazakh poet announces that after explosions with a total yield of 2,500 of the bombs dropped on Hiroshima at the Semipalatinsk nuclear testing range the figures about the consequences of this for the health of the population are still being kept secret and in 40 years of tests not a single health clinic has been built there at the center's expense.

It is not enough to tell the truth about the world and yourself. The truth must be shouted out with anguish and hope. That is what the congress did. This is the necessary compensation for long years of cocksureness, silence, and lies. This is a necessary albeit insufficient condition for rectifying the state of affairs. How do we make this recognized bitter truth work? How do we make practical use of the successes of Soviet foreign policy and the fact that the world now fears us less and pities and respects us more? Alas, these questions were touched on only in passing, for instance in connection with foreign credits for saturating the market with consumer goods and averting possible financial collapse. The official attitude was cautiously skeptical. We are afraid of credits, but for over 25 years now we have been buying grain abroad and these purchases are not so much healing as crippling the country's food balance, perpetuating artificial supports and preventing reliance on our own efforts. The question of credits obviously deserves painstaking analysis in the Supreme Soviet as part of the overall question of including the country in world economic relations.

The biggest benefit from the present more peaceful world is the reduction of military expenditures, the conversion of the defense industry.

From the congress rostrum our people and other peoples for the first time heard the figure of the USSR's real military expenditures—R77.3 billion this year. With expenditures on military space development (R3.9 billion) this is four times more than the figure for defense expenditures announced last October when the budget was approved. How much have we spent on military purposes over past decades really and not in fictitious budget figures? How much in the Brezhnev years went on attaining and maintaining parity at any price, come what may? Even now these are not idle questions.

Glasnost in the military sphere is coming but with difficulty. The real military expenditure figure, as M.S. Gorbachev called it, is a step forward. But for effective parliamentary control over government expenditures we need detailed information about where funds are going, on what items, on what types of weapon and on how justified they are. This practice, which has long existed in the established parliamentary democracies, is something new for us, and a delicate matter if you consider in addition our excessive enthusiasm for military secrets whereby keeping your mouth shut and not asking "superfluous questions" was considered the height of patriotic valor. There should be no superfluous questions for parliamentarians fully empowered by the people and it is not delicacy but an exacting demand on our military-industrial complex, used to not being accountable, which should be their main quality. They have been assigned the task of safeguarding and strictly counting the people's kopeks.

It is planned to reduce the proportion of defense expenditures 50-100 percent by 1995. In the current 5-year plan, we learned that our real, and hitherto secret, military budget has already been reduced by R30 billion compared with what was secretly planned. The sequence of foreign words which enter the Russian language at the whim of history has now been joined by the word "conversion." In Russian it means transforming, reworking, beating swords into plow shares. By 1995 over 60 percent of the output of the defense complex will be civilian. Here too we need the close eye of the deputies acting in the role of people's financial inspectors.

Two achievements of the new foreign policy liberated from the fetters of dogmatism framed the congress before it started and immediately after it ended. M.S. Gorbachev's visit to China added necessary elements to the normalization of relations with our biggest neighbor in the East and to the demilitarization of the world's longest dry land border between two states. The trip to the FRG showed yet again that the West too responded with unprecedented friendliness to restructuring, even where historically relations have been most infected with hostility. On a continent where two camps armed to the teeth have been opposing each other for decades, an area is being cleared to build a "common European home."

The congress in one way or another related our development to the development of the motley, integral, contradictory world. The whole world observed the congress as a demonstration of emerging democracy seeing that, on the one hand, it is intoxicated with the spirit of the freedom to voice opinions and, on the other, is no longer ashamed to set in motion the machinery of voting without having yet learned to use the healthy ideas of the minority to accelerate movement. The view taken by experienced Western democracies of our parliamentary birth was a mixture of approval, condescension, and the understanding that the new Moscow is not being built at once, that it is better and more advantageous to deal with it than with the old Moscow inasmuch as democracy, apart from anything else, is more predictable.

In observing us the world, of course, continued to move. Other major and indeed dramatic events developed on the world stage at the same time as the congress. In Beijing military force was used to end the young people's demonstrations. In Poland, the newly permitted "Solidarity" won an impressive victory over the Polish United Workers Party and its allies at the elections to the Senate and the Sejm. In Brussels, the Western leaders gathered for the NATO jubilee session and welcomed the historic opportunities which restructuring is opening up in the USSR and approved the U.S. plan which, responding to the Soviet plan, will, it seems, accelerate movement toward a radical arms reduction in Europe.

The congress was taken up with our domestic affairs. In foreign policy questions the individual voices of the people's deputies have still not come through as clearly as in domestic questions. But their general opinion—in general words—was expressed eloquently in the message to the peoples of the world. "In the present rapidly developing world we cannot live according to old rules and standards," the message says. "We cannot count on strengthening our security and ensuring prosperity while disregarding the interests of others. It is pointless to turn international relations into the arena of ideological wars. It is criminal to drain the world economy with the arms race and to disregard concern for preserving man's habitat. Whatever barriers may divide us, we are all the children of mother earth, and we have a common destiny."

The congress solemnly gave the assurance that it is assuming responsibility for the Soviet state's strict observance of the principle of peaceful coexistence in relations between all states and peoples of the earth. Now step by step, in persistent parliamentary work, the congress and the Supreme Soviet must implement this assurance.

Kazakh President Cited on Novyy Uzen Events

PM2306090989 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Jun 89 Morning Edition p 3

[Own correspondent V. Ardayev dispatch: "Novyy Uzen: Conflict Had Been Brewing for a Long Time"]

[Text] Alma-Ata, 21 Jun—According to reports from Guryev Oblast, the situation in the city of Novyy Uzen and nearby population centers is continuing to get back to normal. Extremist actions have largely been quashed and the situation is now assuming the nature of mass demonstrations, for the most part peaceful. In the afternoon of 20 June, for example, demonstrations were staged in the settlements of Zhetybay and Munayshi, which involved some 400 people making exactly the same demands as those made by the indigenous population of Novyy Uzen a few days before. A total of 56 people were arrested in the city on the night of 20-21 June for breaking the curfew. The precise number of those who died as a result of the riots has been given: Four people, of whom two were Kazakh, one Lezgin, and one Turkmen. A total of 51 premises were damaged, including wrecked residential buildings.

So what do the demonstrators want? Their placards and slogans are written in both Russian and Kazakh: "We demand fair distribution of wealth!"; "Equal jobs and fair distribution of income!"; and "Young people want work!" The demonstrators have presented the leaders of the republic's party, soviet, and law enforcement bodies who have come to the scene of the events with four—we will be frank—highly disparate demands. First, to release people arrested for hooliganism during the mass riots. Second, to hand over the chief of the Novyy Uzen City Internal Affairs Department for reprisals. Third, to remove all people of Caucasian nationality from the city within 7 days. And, fourth, to find work for all unemployed people of the indigenous nationality.

The events taking place in Novyy Uzen have been commented on by M. Sagdiyev, chairman of the Kazakh Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Supreme Soviet Presidium, recently returned from there.

"The causes of all that has happened have been building up and coming to a head for years," Makhtay Ramazanovich said. "Social problems in the city have essentially remained unresolved for a long time, and injustice has flourished fairly often. Some 1,500-2,000 young people are basically without work, while construction plans are not being met and equipment in enterprise workshops is certainly not being used to full capacity—usually on a single-shift basis. Work in the oilfields mainly follows the duty-tour method and people from other regions of the country form the backbone of their workforce. International education and work by party and soviet bodies to improve interethnic relations have been totally neglected. Cadre policy has also been totally neglected, as a result of which key posts and offices are held by very devious people of various nationalities, who have allowed a mass of abuses, from which the indigenous population has mainly suffered. For example, the order of priority for providing housing has been grossly violated: New arrivals have often found apartments very quickly, while old residents are on the waiting lists for years. Living conditions in Novyy Uzen are extremely difficult. A multitude of cooperatives trading in imported goods at black market prices have sprung up; the situation has reached the point where a glass of sunflower seeds costs 50 kopeks.... Material assets are often sold on the side.

"Failure to intervene in blatant violations of the law and justice by party, soviet, and law enforcement bodies gave rise to mistrust in them and became the fertile ground for the conflict which erupted in Novyy Uzen with such an emotional outpouring. The socioeconomic causes are also perfectly understandable. But the methods employed by extremists and also some of their demands are strongly rejected. What is the point, for example, of trying to put the city's water supply system out of action—this is, after all, a hot, desert region near the Caspian Sea! Or the sewerage and electricity supply systems.... This is being done so as to be able to subsequently dictate conditions to the authorities. Security forces have had to step up protection of all the above installations, as well as a bakery and food warehouses. And the demand that a perfectly innocent militia chief be handed over for rough justice, when he was doing his duty to restore order but is being unjustly accused by some of murdering one of the thugs, really cannot be met. We also cannot meet the condition that all people of Caucasian nationality be removed from Novyy Uzen within 7 days—it is simply unconstitutional. I think that we should now mainly focus our efforts on resolving socioeconomic problems as quickly as possible."

According to the Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, many people of Caucasian nationality are leaving Novyy Uzen of their own accord—in the past few days, for example, some 700 people have left for Makhachkala and Groznyy.

Kirghiz Capital in Turmoil Over 'Squatter' Homes

PM2306093389 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 22 Jun 89 p 1

[Own correspondent S. Romanyuk report: "Squatters in Frunze"]

[Text] Frunze—The English word "squatter" is on the lips of many inhabitants of Frunze nowadays. Who would have thought that thousands of city-dwellers would resort to the unauthorized seizure of state and collective farm land as the only way of solving the housing problem! Today virtually all the temporarily unoccupied territory on the outskirts of the city has been pegged out with taut cord, many plots have freshly dug foundation trenches, and concrete is already being poured in some places. This unusual suburban landscape is augmented by alternating yurts, tents, and huts. It is as crowded as a marketplace here.

A sorry spectacle. Various estimates put the present number of plots seized between 3,500-5,000, amounting to 150-200 hectares. On many of them crops have been trampled, and considerable damage has been caused to suburban land.

Who are these people? What has brought them here? They are primarily workers from the capital's enterprises and establishments, workers and engineers, higher educational institution lecturers, and representatives of the creative intelligentsia. A considerable number of them have been settled in the city for years, sometimes decades, without a residence permit, that is, they have not been registered on the housing waiting list. They have suffered years of wandering from one apartment that does not belong to them to another, humiliation, and the lack of any future.

The main cause of the worsening housing problem was the ill-considered policy of giving priority to increasing the number of jobs and bringing in workers from outside without providing the requisite social safeguards. In recent decades Frunze has turned into a city of marble palaces. The fashionable administrative buildings of the Kirghiz Communist Party Central Committee, the republic State Agro-Industrial Committee, and gigantic museums and monuments have swallowed up the lion's share of funds allocated for city construction. Tens of thousands of city-dwellers have lived and continue to live in inhuman conditions. All this was aggravated by the ban on the construction of individual homes that operated until 1988.

The unauthorized seizure of land began this spring, but did not cause special alarm then. The Fergana events were the catalyst. Around 400 Meskhetian Turks fled to Frunze from neighboring Uzbekistan. They swelled the number of unemployed people in the city and this somewhat agitated the city's population. The squatters' actions began to be stepped up on 2 June, reaching a peak today. They have been exploited by certain individuals in an attempt to heat up the situation and give it a nationalist tinge. There are cases of exploitation of the housing problem by home-owners, and people who do not work or live in the city have appeared among those building their own homes.

There were several crowded rallies in Frunze yesterday attended by leaders of republic and city party and government organizations. There was trenchant discussion which sometimes became unpleasant. The seizure of plots of land has continued since the rallies....

Militia Detain Fergana Rumormongers, 'Bandits'

LD2206134189 Moscow TASS in English 1308 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] Tashkent June 22 TASS—By correspondents of the Uzbekistan News Agency and TASS:

The situation in the Fergana region and other parts of the Soviet Central Asian Republic of Uzbekistan has stabilised, newsmen were told today at a briefing in the press centre of the republican Interior Ministry.

Militia bodies detained in the past few days several persons for inciting unlawful actions and spreading false rumours and leaflets.

On June 18, a group of bandits broke into the home of an inhabitant of the village of Mashad, Namangan region. Posing as Meskhetian Turks and allegedly in revenge for their eviction, they robbed the man of a large sum of money and a car.

Two attackers were detained, and were identified at the briefing as Baltabayev and Mansurov who have a criminal record. The search for [words indistinct] bandits is continuing.

State security officers are taking an active part in maintaining law and order in the city. According to the head of the republican KGB press group, Lieutenant-Colonel A. Blagarodov, investigation and operations teams comprising workers of the USSR Prosecutor's Office, Interior Ministry and about 50 experienced security officers, are operating in the Fergana region.

They uncovered and handed over to the prosecution a great number of cases with regard to specific persons suspected of participation in pogroms, acts of arson, murder and vandalism and those who took part in making weapons and petrol bombs.

Several vehicles whose drivers voluntarily or under threat carried attackers throughout the region were found.

"The work in which the security bodies receive great assistance from the population, will be conducted at a high pace until all organisers, participants and activists who incited disorders in the Fergana region are uncovered and undergo deserved punishment," Blagorodov said.

Rumor Spreading in Fergana Oblast Reported

PM2306093789 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Jun 89 First Edition p 4

[Report by Lieutenant Colonel A. Semenyaka under the rubric "On Situation in Fergana": "Rumors are the Extremists' Weapon"]

[Text] Fergana, 21 Jun—The situation in the oblast is controlled by internal troops subunits. All conversations between officers, sergeants, and soldiers and the local inhabitants perhaps begin with this announcement. That is no accident.

In Fergana, Kokand, and other cities there are stories generated by the rumors spread by someone about how the extremists are on the point of beginning to perpetrate their black deeds again, about how the meat in the market has a peculiar smell, about how.... Spread by someone? To all appearances this is the work of the organizers of the pogrom and killings. After all, their other weapon has now been knocked from their hands.

At meetings people ask the internal troops servicemen many questions. How could such a thing happen? Who is to blame for what happened? How are they to live in the future? Will the culprits be punished for what they have done?

Colonel General Yu. Shatalin, chief of the USSR Internal Affairs Ministry [MVD] internal troops, met with the drivers of Fergana's motor transport enterprise. "Those who took part in the crimes," he assured the gathering, "will not avoid punishment and will be put on trial." The general backed up his words with a description of the strenuous work of investigators, police scientists, and representatives of other state services. A range of suspects has been determined for 34 of the murders and some of them have been arrested. The investigation also has material about the provocateurs and information about the links between the hooligan elements and the mafia groups which supplied them with money and weapons.

On the Usman Yusupov State Farm, workers have rebuffed the people who tried to spread rumors about how the servicemen are breaking up and spoiling the furniture in the city dwellers' apartments. In the farm's second team, headed by N. Makhmudov, the apricot harvest is being brought in by cadets from the USSR MVD Saratov F.E. Dzerzhinskiy Higher Military Command School.

In Fergana, cadets from the USSR MVD 60th Anniversary of the Leninist Communist Youth League Higher Political School are repairing the N.K. Krupskaya Boarding School.

A meeting between internal troops servicemen and the artist Yu. Uzlov, who is respected by the local inhabitants, has taken place in the "Nurkhon" movie theater in Fergana.

MVD Reports on Fergana Unrest, Drugs, Fires

PM2206113389 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
21 Jun 89 Morning Edition p 3

[Own correspondent A. Illesh report: "USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs: A Difficult Five Months"]

[Text] On 20 June in the Ministry of Internal Affairs [MVD] there was a briefing devoted to problems that have become particularly acute recently. It concerned the struggle against drug addiction, police actions in Fergana Oblast, and fires and explosions. Appraisals of the events were given by the leaders of the fire protection and criminal investigation main administrations, and also the media liaison department.

Fergana

As journalists were told, as a result of the atrocities committed in a number of regions of Uzbekistan a total of 99 people have died since the start of the events. Let it be made clear there were no children among the dead. Altogether 1,010 people, including around 200 militia personnel and servicemen, sustained bodily injuries. There were 1,071 cases of pogroms and arson.

What about the evacuation of Meskhetian Turks? From Fergana Oblast it is practically complete, with 16,282 people (including 6,128 children) having been flown out in the course of the week. Families are also continuing to move independently to various parts of the country. The Russian Federation has received the greatest number of refugees—18,229.

The bloody disturbances which have been going on since the end of May have also diverted a great many resources. To ensure the protection of law and order and security in Uzbekistan, 17,000 servicemen from the internal troops, militiamen, and military academy cadets have been brought in. And finally the figures (which can be published today without violating the confidentiality of the investigation) for operational-investigation measures and arrests of the organizers and active participants in the disturbances. In Fergana Oblast alone criminal proceedings have been instituted in 41 cases. And, according to reports covering the period through 19 June, 492 people had been detained (of whom 10 had been formally arrested) for participating in the mass disturbances and 58 detained on suspicion of having committed a crime. A total of 3,811 people has been detained for violating the curfew.

Drug Addiction

Here are the latest facts: As of now 124,000 people in the USSR are registered as having been found using narcotics, and of these 70,000 are sick. The overall number of drug addicts in the country has increased. But even the experts are admitting that the true figures are several times higher. So what are the trends? The MVD asserts that drug addiction among minors has decreased by 40 percent and that crime associated with illegal drug dealing has also decreased—by 30 percent. Yet the black market demand for drugs in the USSR is quite high, at an estimated R300-400 million. So the scope for criminal activity is enormous.

In only one month over 1,000 illegal sowings of opium and oilseed poppies have been exposed, and 17,000 hectares of hemp have been destroyed. Internal troops took part in operations of this kind for the first time, with around 500 men involved.

The work done to restore order in the use, storage, and sale of drugs (IZVESTIYA has written about this several times) has finally begun to have an effect. The number of thefts of narcotics from pharmacies, depots, and other treatment institutions has decreased by 32 percent, and 35.6 percent fewer cases have been recorded of drugs' being obtained on forged prescriptions. And what about the treatment of drug addicts? The "coverage" rate, so to speak, is not bad: Up to 70 percent of drug-addict patients have undergone voluntary treatment, around 1,000 people have been sent for treatment to occupational therapy rehabilitation centers, and admininstrative proceedings have been taken against 4,700 people for drug use. Unfortunately we cannot talk about the effectiveness of treatment in such optimistic tones. But that is another subject, and it would be unjust in this instance to direct complaints only against the militia.

Fires

Last year 139,000 fires were recorded in the country, which were the direct cause of damage totaling over R338 million. A total of 8,504 people died. Some 44,000 buildings and 4,000 pieces of machinery were destroyed and 47,000 head of cattle were killed. The damage caused by fire increases every year, and the burden of the consequences is still falling on our already sick economy. Mysterious fires continue to engulf depots, warehouses, and commercial premises in blue flames. In 1988 there were 2,929 such fires. The damage was R47.8 million.... And yet firemen still do not have enough equipment. For example, only 68 percent of their applications for vehicles are being met.

The situation has remained complex, specialists affirm, in the first 5 months of this year too. The number of fires has increased by 10.2 percent and the amount of losses by 31.9 percent. Already 4,243 people have been killed.

The fire service also sustains losses in the course of duty. Last year 47 firemen died while putting out fires and many became seriously ill or were severely poisoned, burned, injured, or crippled. In this year alone 24 firemen have already died while carrying out their duty.

Aims of Kishinev Hunger Strikers Examined

PM2206133589 Kishinev SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA in Russian 3 Jun 89 p 4

[S. Gamova "Reportage for the Issue": "Hunger Strike"]

[Text] The telephone in the editorial office rings constantly. Residents of Kishinev and other cities and villages in the republic call. Workers, employees, and students call. Calls come from everyone and everywhere. But the question is always the same: What is happening in the capital?

The following is what happened.

Three days ago an unusual group attracted the attention of people walking or driving through Kishinev's central square. Young people, apparently students, were setting up a "bivouac" in the square in front of the monument to Stephen the Great: They were laying out their things, spreading out blankets, and fixing posters to the garden railings. And a new word, unusual for us, looked passersby in the face from these posters: Hunger Strike.

This is now the 3d day, and the crowd of curious people in the square is not diminishing. And the editorial office telephone continues to ring: What is this? What do the hunger strikers want? Is this not an attempt to destabilize the situation in the city?

So what do the 16 people want? It turns out that they are workers, students, and secondary school and vocational and technical school pupils. I believe that their statement attests best of all to this. Let us cite it in full.

"We the undersigned, despairing of securing justice by other means, have declared a hunger strike and will continue it until our legitimate demands are met.

"The flawed decree of 28 July 1988 'On Holding Rallies, Demonstrations, and So Forth,' which gives the right of misinterpretation and does not provide for liability for the authorities' failure to fulfill its points, deprived millions of working people of the possibility of championing their political, social, and economic rights by means of rallies and demonstrations. A specific example is the rally in Kishinev 12 March 1989, when the city soviet executive committee [gorispolkom], by refusing to allow an election rally during the election campaign, transformed into criminals tens and hundreds of thousands of people who wished to air painful problems and hear answers to questions of interest to everyone. As a result of that, our comrades were arrested.

"We demand:

"1. That the appropriate changes be made to the 28 July 1988 decree 'On Holding Rallies, Demonstrations, and So Forth,' providing for organs of power to be held administratively and criminally liable for violating points in the decree.

"2. That those responsible for the refusal to sanction the 12 March 1989 rally be severely punished.

"3. We consider it inexpedient for USSR Prosecutor's Office personnel to come to the Moldavian Soviet Socialist Republic to investigate cases of unsanctioned rallies. We regard this as a humiliation for the Moldavian people's national dignity and as an infringement of the republic's sovereign rights. Continued work by this group on this issue could cause a further aggravation of interethnic relations in the republic. We demand that this group be recalled from Moldavia or be switched to investigating serious crimes—murders, robberies, and organized crime—which are calmly flourishing in the republic.

"4. That the press publish the names of the investigators, experts, and so forth who are conducting the investigation into the case of our arrested comrades (nationality, place of work, place of residence). The investigation must be conducted by Moldavians.

"5. Our comrades are not murderers, robbers, or rapists. We demand a change in the measure of preventive detention pending trial.

"6. We demand an open trial with the participation of the press, television, and representatives of the public.

"7. We demand that our statement be read out at the Congress of People's Deputies.

"8. That the campaign to slander our comrades prior to the court's decision be stopped in the press and on television and radio and that those guilty of mounting it be called strictly to account.

"We ask a 'trust group' to act as intermediary between us and the organs of power.

"Signatures: Yu. Tsurkanu, V. Cheremush, et al."

As we see, the demands are quite specific. A clearly formulated question has to have a no-less-clear and exact answer. For this we turned to the republic Prosecutor's Office.

And there we put our questions. The first one was this: So who was arrested and for what?

Republic Prosecutor N.K. Demidenko:

"We arrested a group of people who participated in an unsanctioned rally which entailed disturbances in the capital. Criminal proceedings have been instituted against all of them without exception for active involvement in group actions which grossly violated public order, were attended by blatant insubordination toward representatives of authority, and disrupted the work of transport."

[Gamova] Are the 12 March events in Kishinev comparable with those that occurred in Georgia? Or, to word it more accurately: Were we not on the threshold of a Tbilisi tragedy?

[Demidenko] Clearly, a parallel should not be drawn. But the facts are these: A mass of people attempted to force its way into the Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee building. That was prevented. But if it had happened, what could have been expected? And again. Militia personnel were surrounded but did not react to rude remarks or physical pressure from people who had crossed the emotional barrier, and they withstood both insults and blows. But if they had not? You cannot even conjecture what would have happened if even one of them had succumbed to the provocation. So there was unpredictability. And it is a very small step from this to calamity.

[Gamova] The statement mentions a USSR Prosecutor's Office investigative group. Who is on it?

K.P. Turmovich, investigator of the USSR Prosecutor's Office investigative group:

"The group is made up of specialists, and so professional qualities were the chief criterion for selection, and the 'nationality' section was of interest to no one. But a simple 'review' of our cadres provides the following picture: In all there are 14 people, 9 are local working people, 7 of whom are Moldavians."

[Gamova] The statement says that those arrested are not murderers or robbers.

[Turmovich] There is no question of that. We are of the same opinion. We also agree with point 6 of the statement—about an open trial with the press involved. I see no grounds for examining the case in closed session.

[Gamova] One of the "hunger strikers'" demands is for a change in the measure of preventive restriction pending trial. Is that possible?

[Demidenko] Such a possibility does exist and is provided for in law. But there must be guarantees that the persons who were arrested will not take advantage of their release from custody to commit illegal acts or try to go into hiding. Such guarantees could be sureties from public organizations or individual citizens who are trusted by the Prosecutor's Office. [Demidenko ends]

But guarantees must also be provided by the arrestees themselves. Therefore the following question was put to Yuriy Ferar, one of those for whose sake 16 people are into the 3d day of a hunger strike:

[Question] If an opportunity were granted to release you pending trial, would you give the investigation a guarantee not to continue illegal actions?

[Ferar] Yes. I very much regret going to the rally.

[Question] Why?

[Ferar] I disagree with the aims of some of its participants, who marched with anti-Russian slogans. I am Moldavian, my wife is Ukrainian. Let people learn whatever language they want to, but people must not be driven out. At one time, in the forties, we needed them. I even want to say thank you to the Prosecutor's Office and the investigator: I have thought a great deal during the time I have spent here. This is a big lesson. [Ferar ends]

These questions were put by members of the trust group: A.F. Plugaru, I.Ya. Mizha, and V.M. Berlinskiy.

A.F. Plugaru, group chairman:
"Motivated by concern for the hunger strikers' state of health and for the possible complication of the situation in the capital, by agreement with the republic prosecutor and the chairman of Kishinev Gorispolkom the trust group has taken on the mission of helping to resolve this political-legal conflict. Appropriate talks have been held with the interested sides. The leadership of the republic Prosecutor's Office and of Kishinev Gorispolkom has shown understanding of and concern at the situation that has been created, as well as readiness to begin resolving the conflict on legal grounds.

"The possibilities of replacing the arrest of individual arrestees by a personal surety on the part of those wishing to assume this responsibility are being studied.

"The trust group has asked the population and the authorities to display a humane attitude toward the fate of the hunger strikers and of those in whose defense they have risen.

"We also urge the hunger strikers to abandon their strike and get involved in constructive work to resolve the demands made."

The Prosecutor's Office has permitted a meeting between the trust group and the arrestees. The newspaper will inform its readers of the results of that meeting.

Protesters Released on Bail

PM2206134389 Kishinev SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA in Russian 6 Jun 89 p 3

[Unattributed report: "At the Moldavian Prosecutor's Office"]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Participants in a meeting held in the republic's capital on 4 June 1989 between Moldavian Supreme Soviet deputies and voters supported the demands of the group of people continuing its protest hunger strike by the monument to Stephen the Great for the release from custody of people arrested for breach of public order and other unlawful actions committed during unauthorized rallies and processions in January-March this year. A number of Moldavian Supreme Soviet and local soviet deputies and leading workers of party organs also expressed themselves in favor of altering the measure applied to secure the court appearance of the defendants in the aforementioned cases, and agreed to assume personal surety for them. In view of this and in order to prevent any further unfavorable development of events, Republic Prosecutor N.K. Demidenko deemed it possible to alter the measure in the shape of arrest chosen to ensure the court appearance of defendants F.D. Kalistr, S.K. Kyshlyar, G.N. Nikulitsa, I.V. Tutunar, V.I. Nistor, and V.I. Garabazhiyu in favor of a recognizance not to leave and the personal surety of trustworthy soviet and party activists. All the accused arrested during the preliminary inquiry have been released from investigative detention.

Lithuania's 'Seimas' Discusses Independence Problem

LD2106135189 Vilnius in Lithuanian to North America 0000 GMT 20 Jun 89

[Correspondent Roma Pakeniene report]

[Summary] A statement on the progress of Lithuania's independence was made at yesterday's [19 June] session of the Sajudis Seimas, whch was the fifth Seimas since the constituent congress of the Sajudis reform movement.

The statement said that the first distinct turning point on the road to reinstating Lithuania's statehood was the 16 February Seimas Declaration in which the aspiration of the Lithuanian people to set up the conditions for the nation's self-determination, and to proceed toward the restoration of state sovereignty by peaceful means without confining ourselves to partial achievements, was declared.

The second important step was made when the declaration adopted by the Lithuanian Supreme Soviet last May declared at state level that the sovereignty of Lithuania is the aspiration of the Lithuanian nation.

The third, and not the last, step was the 18 June Seimas declaration in which the start of the state's restoration was declared. That declaration stated:

The Seimas believes that in order to eliminate the consequences of the occupation and the annexation, it is necessary:

To declare the 1940 People's Seimas elections illegal and its decisions null and void;

To set up the law concerning the agreed conditions for the temporary dislocation of Soviet troops on Lithuania's territory;

To start negotiations with the USSR about the gradual withdrawal of its armed forces from Lithuania; and

To convene a meeting of all political forces in Lithuania to discuss the question how the independent state can be restored while retaining the stability of the political situation in Lithuania.

Nevertheless, the adoption of this document was somewhat complicated. The Seimas deputies were presented with two variants of the declaration, which caused heated debates.

The first version, which was prepared by the Seimas Political Commission, was seen by most as more radical and concrete; the second was prepared on the basis of the first version, but was somewhat more realistic, and was presented by the Seimas Council. When the vote was taken, the membes of the Seimas were divided equally. Some saw it as a split in the Seimas, and some regarded it as a normal and natural phenomenon.

As things had turned out in this way, the decision was made to prepare a compromise version by the end of the Seimas session. In practice, this is the same document as that prepared by the Political Commission, that is, the radical version. The only difference is that the deadlines and the person or persons who are supposed to carry out all this are not named. In the initial version it was the Lithuanian Supreme Soviet and the Lithuanian Government. At the same time, it seems that the importance of the declaration has also become unclear.

Romualdas Ozolas, philosopher and a member of the Sajudis Seimas Council, said that there were more important things than this, such as 23 August when the

Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact will be discussed. He said that raising and discussing sonorous and far-reaching slogans as a first priority is merely a manifestation of political immaturity.

A resolution concerning the Sajudis' policy on nationality issues was another important document adopted by the Sajudis Seimas.

Medvedev Speaks at Scientific Research Institute

Discusses Congress, New Directions

PM2206131589 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Jun 89 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Confidently Following the Course of Restructuring"]

[Text] On 16 June USSR People's Deputy V.A. Medvedev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, met with the collective of the "Kibernetika" Science and Production Association scientific research institute. The makers of modern automated control systems familiarized him with their work, development prospects, and staffers' working and everyday living conditions. The institute is one of the country's leading research centers, determining the level of scientific and technical progress in a number of very important national economic sectors.

At the meeting, which took place in the institute's conference hall, there was a discussion of the results of the recent USSR Congress of People's Deputies. The gathering was addressed by V.A. Medvedev. For 2 weeks, he said, the attention of the Soviet and international public was fixed on our congress. It was a truly unprecedented event in terms of its significance, scale, openness, and breadth of discussion. The congress was faced with two tasks. First, in connection with its assumption of full state power, that of forming new supreme organs of state power and initiating their activities. Second, analyzing the situation in the country and determining the main directions of the party's domestic and foreign policy. I think the congress coped with these tasks.

Going on to speak of the importance of forming the new supreme organs of state power, the speaker stressed that it is a matter of a totally new structure for them corresponding to the conditions of a rule-of-law state, and of ensuring that the soviets have real sovereignty. The Supreme Soviet is essentially a permanently operating legislative and administrative organ with wide powers. And this has already been apparent at its first sittings.

The post of Supreme Soviet chairman is essentially a new institution. It combines the Leninist tradition of the soviets with modern ideas about the functions of the head of state. Many speakers, when addressing M.S. Gorbachev at the congress, called him president, and suggested that he be elected by all the people. I think the adopted procedure for the election of the USSR Supreme Soviet chairman by the congress has the advantage that in this case he is accountable to the country's supreme representative organs.

The congress and the first stage of the USSR Supreme Soviet session set in motion a new system of supreme organs of state power in accordance with the amendments to the Constitution which were adopted last fall.

Concerning the congress' analysis of the situation in the country and its establishment of the main directions of state policy, the speaker stressed that, despite very significant shifts in the country's social and political life and the efforts made in the economy, we have not yet extricated it from the economic crisis in which it found itself at the beginning of the eighties. Some speakers, the CPSU Central Committee secretary pointed out, put forward the thesis that the economic and sociopolitical crisis in our country broke out in recent years. In doing so, whether they intend to or not, they are casting aspersions on restructuring, saying that it gave rise to all these difficulties and problems. It is hard to agree with this approach. The acuteness of the problems is due not to restructuring, but to the stagnant state of the country during the previous period. Restructuring merely exposed these problems, although, in fact, some of them have worsened.

Describing the atmosphere at the congress, V.A. Medvedev stressed that there was a frank and critical discussion of domestic and foreign policy. It is true that not everyone was satisfied with the depth of the discussion, he said, because much time was taken up by procedural and all manner of other points. Some speeches were dominated by arguments about general problems. The main directions of domestic and foreign policy elaborated by the party received the congress' principled support. The speeches of the absolute majority of deputies show that their understanding of the main problems facing the country, and of the economic and also political reforms, runs basically along the lines of what was said in the congress reports by M.S. Gorbachev and N.I. Ryzhkov, and deepens and enriches our notions. The differences relate to the priority of particular measures, the pace of their implementation, and the acuteness of the formulation of problems.

The congress prompted in society great hopes of solutions to specific questions, although, to be frank, the speaker said, it is not a very appropriate forum for such solutions of an economic, social, and ideological nature, or for the adoption of legislative acts requiring careful preparation, analysis, the participation of specialists, repeated discussions, and, perhaps, referendums. It is more a forum for the elaboration of broad political platforms.

Nevertheless, the congress did resolve a number of major sociopolitical issues. This concerns raising the minimum pension and lifting restrictions on the payment of pensions to individuals working as workers or foremen. A number of measures was adopted on material provisions for invalids and Great Patriotic War veterans, and elimination of variations in the care of patients in medical institutions, sanatoriums, and rest homes. The congress also directly decided to revoke Article 11(1) of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decree of 8 April 1989. The congress formed a number of commissions made up of people's deputies to examine very acute social problems. It instructed the Supreme Soviet's Presidium, its chambers, committees, and commissions, and the Council of Ministers, to solve various questions. So the practical impact of the congress decisions will undoubtedly be large and very substantive.

The congress was a major step forward in the development of democracy. It demonstrated the breadth and freedom of debate and provided a wide spread and broad spectrum of opinions. By and large it was a fruitful debate in an open, democratic atmosphere.

The live television broadcasts from the congress, the publication of the full stenographic record of the sittings in IZVESTIYA, and the wide coverage in other papers were convincing evidence of this. We were in favor of this from the outset, primarily for reasons of principle, in order to avoid any kind of speculation.

The congress was a fine school of democracy and political culture, although it has to be said, V.A. Medvedev stated, that it is only the "first lesson" or, at any rate, first grade in this school. It is true that at the congress itself and after it, the idea was put about that it was undemocratic and that pressure had been brought to bear on the deputies. One argument was the lack of choice.

In principle we are in favor of choice in elections and it was in its own ranks that the party started to practice this principle: It was back at the January plenum (1987) that the principle of electivity of party committee secretaries on the basis of choice and in a secret ballot was formulated. But this matter must be approached seriously and not develop into a game of choice for choice's sake. For example, take election of the head of state. The party, which obtained a majority, puts forward its own leader for the post. It has an acknowledged leader. So why propose two or three?

One of the main themes that ran through the work of the congress was the theme of of the party, V.A. Medvedev continued. It was addressed by deputies from various angles. Never before at such an important forum have party organizations faced so much criticism. To be frank, the criticism was not always objective. There was an obvious desire on the part of certain speakers to sow doubts about the CPSU's potential to conduct matters, to cause dissension between the party, between its local organs and the leadership, the general secretary, and the Politburo, and persistent efforts to cause confrontation between the party and the soviets. On occasion speakers expressed the desire to deprive the party of the opportunity to influence soviets' fundamental decisions via its members. Prior to that, during the election campaign, people were persistently plugging the idea of noninterference by the party in the elections. Yet in many countries political parties exist for the sole purpose of organizing elections. The comparisons made at the congress—which is higher, the Congress of Soviets or the party congress, the Supreme Soviet or the CPSU Central Committee?—are clearly illegitimate.

But all this does not mean we do not have to meticulously analyze the content of the criticism and draw conclusions from it, the CPSU Central Committee secretary said. What is important today, though, he stressed, is that in the majority of speeches, if the party theme was touched on in a critical manner, it was for other reasons. It was anxiety for the party's authority and prestige of the party member, party activist, and leader, and concern for restructuring in the party itself—concern that it be in the vanguard of the renewal of Soviet society.

We are confident that every opportunity exists for deepening democracy in our society while preserving and strengthening the party's vanguard role. But the party is called upon to perform its role by different methods—methods of political and ideological work among the masses and, in state and public organizations, via the Communists working in them. The fierce debate at the congress showed that no social forces can be kept at arm's length any more. One must seek and be able to conduct a wide-ranging and purposeful dialogue, reach a compromise, and involve all interested forces in the general restructuring process. This is one of the chief guarantees of success and the way to increase the party's authority and strengthen its vanguard role.

Continuing to dwell on the results of the congress in connection with problems of ideological work, the speaker stressed that in the course of restructuring the role of ideological work changes fundamentally. The point is that no major step—in the economy, the social sphere, or culture—can expect to succeed without taking public opinion into account, let alone by going against it. In a democratic, open society public opinion is a powerful force and it cannot be created by commands from on high. What is required is intelligent, painstaking, trusting work with people.

The media have a massive role to perform in expressing and forming public opinion. In the speeches by people's deputies at the congress and in public debates about it, there were various, sometimes extreme, assessments of the work of the media at the present stage of restructuring. But I think that to go to extremes when assessing their work is unacceptable. We want people to follow the course of democratization, glasnost, openness, and elimination of all areas closed to criticism, come what may. At the same time, we do not want our press' democratic practice to turn into its opposite, to be directed against the people's interests, against the renewal of society. We want to get rid of subjectivism, group bias, and the desire to vilify and carp. We want our press to reflect restructuring processes more fully and more thoroughly, and actively participate in solving restructuring's constructive problems. I want to make it abundantly clear, V.A. Medvedev said, that the party cannot renounce its political influence on the activity of the press. But it intends to implement it by means of political influence, force of authority, and the power of truth.

In conclusion the CPSU Central Committee secretary dwelt on the tasks the party will have to work on in the immediate future. There is no task more urgent at the moment, he said, than that of halting negative trends in the economy. It is a matter primarily of normalizing the consumer market. At the same time, one must not forget the underlying economic processes, our medium- and long-term programs. A vast amount of work has to be done in the remaining years of the 5-year plan in the political reform sphere. At the moment we are faced with the full breadth and complexity of the problems of the second stage of this reform and of the reorganization of the organs of state power and management at the republican and also at oblast, city, and rayon levels. This stage affects such a fundamental aspect of our life as interethnic relations. This gives rise to a whole range of very complex problems—from the political and theoretical foundations of nationalities policy to the solution of specific ethnic and religious problems.

There is a vast amount of legislative work to accomplish in all areas. And the Supreme Soviet must work very hard on this. The second Congress of Soviets will take place in the fall.

But the main thing is to rectify the situation in the country as quickly as possible and change the socioeconomic and sociopolitical situation for the better. The party and its Central Committee, the speaker said in conclusion, have a clear plan of action. It was confirmed in principle by the congress and enriched by it, and we must proceed confidently along the path that has been marked out.

V.A. Medvedev answered numerous questions put by the meeting participants.

Party's New Societal Role Noted

LD1606205689 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 16 Jun 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] USSR People's Deputy Vadim Andreyevich Medvedev had a meeting today with the collective of the Kibernetika scientific-production association's research institute. The creators of modern automated control systems—Academician Semenikhin and other scientists, designers, engineers, and workers—acquainted the secretary of the CPSU Central Committee with the institute's work projects and their development prospects, and with the working and everyday conditions of the staff. [video shows building exterior, Medvedev being welcomed on arrival, and Medvedev and others touring institute]

At a meeting in the institute's conference hall, the talk was primarily about a most important event in our country's life—the USSR Congress of People's Deputies, which has now ended. [video shows Medvedev at a rostrum addressing audience]

Addressing those assembled, Comrade Medvedev said in particular:

[Begin Medvedev recording] I think that we have every reason to conclude that the congress confirmed the course of deepening restructuring and renewing our socialist society, and confirmed it with the strength and prestige of the highest organ of state power, expressing the will of our Soviet people which was manifested in the course of the election campaign.

I would like to touch on a further theme that was very vigorously discussed at the congress. It is the theme of the role of our party—a theme which was raised from various and even at times opposing standpoints in the delegates' speeches. Never before at such high forums have there been heard so many criticisms of the work of party organizations. The issue of the party's role in the new democratic mechanism for running our society was ever present in the congress debates. We are confident that there is every opportunity to deepen the democracy of our society, while preserving and consolidating the party's role as its political vanguard. However, it is called upon to implement this role by other methods—by the methods of political and ideological work among the masses, and in state and public organizations through Communists, through the members of the party working in them.

This role presupposes first a decisive democratization of internal party life and cadre work, including the elections of party bodies at all their levels. Second, it presupposes a change in the character of the interrelationship between the party and the entire system of social organizations and spontaneously formed movements, which express the diverse range of interests and requirements of the various sections of our society, the various regions, and so on, and the conducting of a constant political dialogue, drawing them into the general process of the restructuring of our life and renewal of various aspects of our social organizations. Third, it presupposes the people's democratic supervision of the party's work, including through the elections of people's deputies from among party leaders. [end recording]

[Announcer] In conclusion, Vadim Andreyevich Medvedev answered many questions from those taking part in the meeting.

Zaykov Confers With Moscow Workers on Congress

Tours 'Famous' Production Units

LD1506205589 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1700 GMT 15 Jun 89

[Text] The results of the first Congress of the USSR People's Deputies, which has ended, and the tasks of the new stage of restructuring were in the focus of attention at a meeting betwen Zaykov, USSR people's deputy, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and the first secretary of the Moscow city party committee, and the work collective of the No 1 State Bearings Works production association. He visited a number of production units of this famous enterprise, one of the leaders of industry in the capital.

The works' collective is successfully coping with the demands of the 5-year plan and the current year. Social questions are on the whole solved successfully, although difficulties exist with meeting the growing requirements for housing. The plant's program, Progress-95, represents a base of major socio-economic transformations. A question was discussed about setting up a state bearings concern on the basis of the No 1 State Bearings Works. Businesslike, unconstrained discussions with the Communists of the enterprises, with workers, and with specialists were held during an inspection of the production units. Comrade Zaykov spoke at the meeting with representatives of the work's collective about the work of the USSR Congress of People's Deputies and about the decisions which were adopted by it.

Housing Problem To Be Solved

LD1606103589 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0230 GMT 16 Jun 89

[Excerpts] The results of the first USSR Congress of People's Deputies, which has ended, and the tasks of the new state of restructuring were the focus of the meeting between Comrade Zaykov and the work collective of the No 1 State Bearings Works production association. [passage omitted] [video shows Zaykov touring factory]

[Reporter] Lev Nikolayevich, you were here in March of last year. In your view, is progress discernible?

[Zaykov] Indeed, in March I was with Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, but not on these premises, in this new area. We were not in these shops. This is my first time here. As for the old shops, the main premises of the No 1 State Bearings Works, what is discernible, you know, is great concern for people. That is the first thing. There is progress; there is already acceleration. The main thing that interested me very much at this works is that the collective intends to tackle the housing problem for those who do not have individuals apartments today; in 1995 they will have fully solved this problem. They have reckoned that if they commission 22,000 a year, then the problem will be solved by 1995. We will help them. [video shows interview with Zaykov surrounded by people]

Zaykov Reports to Moscow Gorkom Session 21 Jun

LD2106084189 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0700 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] A plenum of the Moscow Gorkom [city party committee] started today. Comrade Zaykov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom, delivered a report on the work of the city party organization under modern conditions. Members of elected party bodies, Moscow Gorkom commissions, and the ativ of primary party organizations took part in preparations for the plenum. The results of sociological research carried out in the party organizations and labor collectives of the capital were taken into consideration. There has been widespread discussion of urgent problems of party life and mastering the new methods of work, and of raising the vanguard role of Communists in society in recent weeks in city television and radio programs and on the pages of Moscow newspapers.

Main Report by Elective Members

LD2106223189 Moscow World Service in English 1500 GMT 21 Jun 89

[Text] A full-scale meeting of the Moscow party committee is being held in Moscow. The meeting is to discuss the role of Communists in reviving the full government of soviets, one of the goals of the political reform initiated by the Communist Party.

And the other topic discussed at today's meeting is how the party should bring together all public forces and movements under the conditions of the policy of restructuring.

For the first time the main report was prepared not by party officials but by elective members, who try to focus on the burning issues. This was reported by a representative of the party committee at a briefing held on the eve of the meeting. The briefing was held at the press centre of the Moscow party comittee. Similar briefings will be held on a regular basis.

Poll Criticizing Communists Cited

LD2206091389 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 21 Jun 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast—announcer-read report over video]

[Text] A plenum of the Moscow city party committee which took place today discussed the work of the Moscow city party organization under modern conditions. Over to our commentator Aleksandr Krutov:

[Krutov] Good evening, comrades. The main task of the plenum was to work out the tactics and strategy of the city party organization for the near future. I want to dwell on one figure which was heard today in the report by Lev Nikolayevich Zaykov—40 percent of people polled during sociological research think that Communists are not generators of ideas and uncompromising strugglers against negative phenomena. An alarming figure, you'll agree. It was also said at the first congress of soviets that the party is lagging behind the processes which are taking place in society, as you remember.

So why is this happening? This question was also heard today at the plenum. It was subjected to a very serious discussion. You see, if we talk about the leading role of the party, then you can see that this role consists not only of the distribution— at times incompetent—of all instructions without exception in its name, but in raising the responsibility of party organizations and of every Communist, whatever post he occupies. All speakers agreed with this. At the same time however, it was stressed that it is essential to clearly demarcate the functions of party, local soviet, and economic bodies.

Look at what happens: Our city is a large one. Although it is the capital, it is dirty and not well looked after. Trade is defunct. Violations of the law are increasing. There are no goods, and one can often hear—and, in principle, justifiably—that the party bodies are to blame. But you see specific persons in economic services answer for each area, and initially one needs to make them answerable. Therefore we need to stop whirling around the same figures in a search for candidates for leading posts, said the speakers. We need more boldly to put forward young, energetic, and intellectual people, including nonparty members, for it's not a matter of a poll but of a person's position.

Briefly, there were many interesting proposals and many sharp arguments. You can read an account about this tomorrow in the newspapers. The people of Moscow will see Lev Nikolayevich Zaykov's report on the television today following the program. They have probably already seen it before the program. Here's what I want to dwell on: It was proposed at the plenum to begin preparations without delay for the 28th party congress, in order to get general party discussion underway in Moscow, with the participation also of nonparty members, on the role and place of the CPSU in restructuring.

[Announcer] Comrades Medvedev and Razyumovskiy took part in the work of the Moscow city party committee plenum.

Death of Journalist Under Investigation

18001236 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 14 Jun 89 p 2

[Article by KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA special correspondents A. Kalinin and V. Kuznetsov: "Death of a Journalist"]

[Text] He always stood out for his keen sense of justice. Restructuring unshackled his pen, but it also made his life complicated. However, nobody, including even the journalist himself, ever thought that it will have to be paid for with his life.

This year, Nikolay Nikiforov would have turned 32. The last son of his mother, brought up without a father, he was the spokesman primarily for the interests of common people.

The trade of journalism made him famous, but not affluent. He had to incur debts in order to buy a small house at the rayon seat. Yet, he managed to buy it. He moved his elderly mother from his native village. He intended to bring his young wife to the house. This, however, was not to be. He joked: "Just let me buy a house and furniture, and I will get married." He did not manage to buy furniture.

"Nikolay was (alas, I must use the past tense) one of the few journalists in our republic for whom restructuring has become the cause of their lives," wrote to the editorial office his friend, poet Valeriy Turgay. "All of us are asking ourselves the same question: Is what has happened to the journalist an act of revenge for his critical statements, for his principled approach, and the courage to write the truth, regardless of the personalities and ranks [of those involved]?"

...They noticed his absence 2 days later. They notified the militia 4 days later. They found him 57 days later, in the forest, in a ravine, more than 70 kilometers away from home. A forensic inquest confirmed the assumption that he had died a violent death. More precisely, Nikolay was strangled with a scarf.

This is all we know at this point. The rest is the domain of the investigation. In no way do we want to foretell its result, and suspect or, God forbid, accuse somebody. Could the murder have been random? In principle, it could have. However, to a greater degree yet, it could have been non-random. At present, most people agree exactly on the second version. To be sure, some think that he was killed because of what he had written, while others—because of what he still had not managed to write, because he knew what should not have been allowed to get into the open in any case.

Let us say again that these are suppositions. However, no matter what conclusions the investigation arrives at, it is absolutely certain that an extremely unhealthy situation has emerged in the rayon, and the circle of those thirsting for reprisals against the journalist was tightening around him.

For decades, Komsomolskiy Rayon in Chuvashia was considered to be all right. The work of the rayon party committee drew praise. Later it turned out that this evaluation was premature. "All ideological work was focused only on ensuring economic operations; in the selection of cadres, more attention was paid to the business traits than to the moral ones," this is how current party raykom [rayon party committee] secretary G. Utkin, who very recently was a teacher, and before that an editor of the rayon newspaper, evaluates the situation. "Hence there were major errors."

One person, the master, ruled the rayon. He dispensed punishment and clemency, held court, and forgave transgressions. All appointments to positions and transfers depended on his mood and sympathy. First secretary of the party raykom P. Muzhikov was such a master.

Was this really the only rayon of which it was typical?

For example, it is hard to explain why the editorial offices of central newspapers thus far have not been able to confirm their own correspondents without an endorsement by the local party leader. They say that the conditions in which the correspondent will have to work depend on him—not on the editorial board which signs a contract with the journalist, not on the state which is to regulate the relationship between the journalist and society, but on the obkom [oblast party committee] secretary. Judges, prosecutors, sanitary and disease control, and control and audit services are in the same situation. Quite a few employees of various kinds are recalled from field positions in our country for one simple reason—they could not "get along" with "the first [secretary]." An easy disposition and the skill of working "at the master's pleasure" are taken into account rather than business and professional skills, or even moral traits.

Ultimately, people desirable for Muzhikov and dependent on him staffed key positions in Komsomolskiy Rayon. For example, eight persons among the leading cadres had been previously tried for criminal offenses. Birds of a feather flocked together. "Our people" promoted the careers of "our people" up to the supreme organ of state authority.

However, some were not silent. Prosecutor of the rayon Vladimir Yelin opposed such arbitrary rule. They found a pretext, and got rid of the prosecutor. Now he is working as a deputy [prosecutor] in another rayon. In 1983, storekeeper of the "Alga" collective farm Kamaliyev tried to stand up for the truth. As he maintained, the collective farm purchased military cars removed from service, and sold them at speculative prices. They tried to bring Kamaliyev up on criminal charges supposedly for stealing oats. Then he stated that he would go to Moscow, and disappeared. Vanished as if he had never existed. They hushed up the case. Only recently did they recall it, and took it up again—but a lot of time has passed since!

In their turn, "our" people were skillfully sheltered from the blows; they got away with anything. They winked at the drinking binges and financial machinations of chairman of the "Red October" collective farm Arsentyev, former deputy of the Supreme Soviet in the previous term. Former chairman of the rayon consumer cooperative Akhmetov was sheltered from party and criminal penalties—he was expelled from the party as many as 4 years after committing a crime. Collective farm chairman Yatmanov, who had been caught stealing, was nominated deputy director of a branch plant. After a tangled case involving the dubious suicide of student Smirnov, rayispolkom [rayon executive committee] chairman Shipatov was relieved of his responsibilities for the classical reason "in conjunction with being assigned other work." Former militia employee Alekseyev, to whose name several cases of rape are tied, sold his house and left.

Why shouldn't one throw his weight around if he has that kind of support? So, Chairman Arsentyev, "known in the republic," practiced wicked reprisals against undesirable collective farm members. Chairman of the "Alga" collective farm Aprakov actually ran out of the collective farm party committee secretary Kamalyukov; Komsomol [Leninist Communist Youth League] organizer Tokayev was forced to resign. The new rayon ispolkom chairman Barinov not only connived at violations in trade, but was not himself averse to making a profit on goods in short supply.

The journalist Nikiforov wrote about all of this. He wrote about every case separately, perhaps, without assuming that all of them were intertwined, and that he was interfering with the relations among people producing and distributing material assets which have emerged in the rayon. His shows on the local radio were awaited. His newspaper publications were talked about, but different things were said. Some people talked about them with grateful outrage, others—with restrained hatred. Sometimes, the hatred would not be controlled, and then the journalist was subjected to a barrage of threats. Employees of the editorial office witnessed many stormy scenes.

Raypo [rayon consumer association] chairman Tumalanov was dragged from behind the wheel drunk when GAI [State Highway Inspectorate] inspector Popov raided the roads of the rayon together with Nikiforov. Tumalanov, a raykom member, a deputy of the rayon soviet, who enjoyed particular protection by "the first," grabbed the inspector by the lapels: "Do you have any idea on whose case you are getting?" Reinforcements arrived. They calmed the chairman down, took him to the car, examined him, and wrote up the report.

At this point, chairmen of collective farms, managers of rayon services and organizations, his fellow functionaries in the raykom, the soviet, and trade, rose to his defense. They persuaded the GAI inspector to withdraw and destroy the report, collected compromising information about him, blackmailed, slandered, and provoked him. At the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the republic, they are convinced that at the time only Nikiforov saved Popov.

Through common acquaintances, Tumalanov approached Nikolay: the publication needed to be prevented. He picked Nikolay up in his official car: "We need to talk." They left the settlement, and turned into the forest. Later, came the persuading, assurances of friendship, and offers to drink. Nikolay passed up the drinks, but not the publication. He broadcast a program on the radio, and then published an article devoted to the adventures of the chairman....

On the following day, the editor was summoned to the rayon party committee.

Nikiforov did not get along with "the first." Those who Nikiforov wrote about also knew this, and they complained to Muzhikov rather than to the editor or to the courts.

On one occasion, after yet another radio column, Muzhikov summoned Nikiforov. "Read what you've said today for all the rayon to hear!" Nikolay began to read. The secretary interrupted: "Not like that, but like you did on the air, with expression!" At this point, Nikolay threw the text on the table: "If you need this, read it yourself." He could not allow anybody to treat him like that. However, this also was not how they talked to Muzhikov.

On another occasion, Muzhikov's car was stopped during another round of inspection. "Now that you have stopped me, arrest me!" "Calm down! After all, you are the first secretary," Nikiforov shamed him. This insulted Muzhikov still more. He would recall this episode at the meeting of the party group before the rayon soviet session. He would not talk about theft, padding, alcoholism, and rudeness, but about this chance stop on the road. "Your first secretary almost was arrested," he would complain to the deputies. And he would make an angry remark: "You see, those Nikiforovs hang out there...."

Such words uttered by the first leader of the rayon always become very significant. Anyway, editor of the newspaper Mikhaylov was endlessly getting flak on the account of Nikiforov at the meetings of the bureau. The clouds were getting thicker.

Some believe that the tragedy could have never occurred had things turned out differently at the rayon party conference, over 40 percent of the delegates of which voted against Muzhikov. However, the alarm call was not heard. A representative of the party obkom again persistently recommended Muzhikov for the position of first secretary. Those who had committed acts of lawlessness under his protection took heart again.

Nikiforov did not always tell others about his skirmishes with Muzhikov, as well as the warnings and the threats. However, these things did creep up. On one occasion, they tried to splash something on him; on another, a car almost ran him over as he was going to work. His mother was concerned: "You should be more careful; they have the power." He got angry: "They should not lay their hands on the property of the people!" G. Utkin, at the time a teacher, called the republic newspapers in Cheboksary: pull the guy out, he's on the brink. His friends cautioned him. He only laughed: "I am not that important!"

Certainly, what is a newspaper employee to be afraid of, if he is not involved in independent investigative journalism, and prepares his materials on the basis of official inspections and raids? What is a surprise inspection, a big deal! We have so many various inspections, commissions, audits, but violations and abuses are as numerous as before, because some people do the checking, while other people make decisions.

For example, a department store was inspected by the republic committee for prices. Before leaving for a vacation, a deputy prosecutor handed the criminal case over to the rayon prosecutor, and the latter referred it to the court of peers. Things would have come up roses had it not been for the interference by Nikiforov.

The same was the case with Tumalanov. It was all too easy to sweep the ill-fated report under the rug, suppress, put in his box, and, finally, boot out the improvident GAI man. However, Nikiforov got in the way again.

Principled, courageous, and honest journalists are disliked by many. They have always tried to settle scores with them. In the 1890's, the Samara industrialist Lebedev hired workers for 3 rubles in order to beat up the columnist Khlamida—Maksim Gorkiy. Ninety years later, two unknown persons beat up badly the KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA correspondent Yu. Filinov in his apartment; in Alma-Ata, militia functionaries had to give protection from racketeers to our own correspondent A. Lapin.

In the time of restructuring, when editing according to phone calls [from individuals in positions of power] has been denounced along with governing according to phone calls, the methods of pressuring journalists have become more refined. They could make up an entire chapter in a textbook on the history of Soviet journalism: beginning with labeling, and accusations of the tendency to cast slurs, all the way to collecting compromising evidence against their relatives, anonymous phone calls and letters, blackmail, threats, and open provocation. The late staff correspondent of SOVETSKIY SHAKHTER for Donetsk Oblast V. Berkhin was even arrested and imprisoned.

There was nothing in Nikiforov to latch onto, nothing to back him into the corner with, nothing to compromise him. He did not buy goods in short supply from the rear entrance of shops, and he did not bring home from collective farms foodstuffs received free of charge. The opinion emerged that, if Nikiforov were not in the editorial office, the newspaper would become "meek."

When told about the disappearance of the journalist, the first secretary of party raykom said: "So, he disappeared, and that's it. This means he was drunk, and don't you make this into a sensation." The death of the journalist revealed many things, and many people in the rayon would have liked to hush up the incident. They could have hushed it up, as they had done in the case of the storekeeper at the "Alga" collective farm. However, this was a different time. The death of Nikiforov was too much to bear. People rose up to defend the journalist who had disappeared. On the eve of the elections, leaflets appeared at the rayon seat. The passers-by read in them: "Comrades! The elections should not be held because of the holy man Nikolay Valentinovich Nikiforov, our journalist, missing and not being accounted for. The hired killers should be caught and severely punished in front of the people." The outrage of all people was at its peak. The leadership got a political vote of no confidence. The wave of mass rallies tossed Muzhikov out of the post of the first secretary of party raykom. The chairs of other nomenklatura functionaries also began to shake. The investigative team was augmented by experienced specialists from Cheboksary and Moscow. The case of Nikiforov acquired political rather than criminal undertones.

However, the death of Nikolay also caused a different reaction. It was exploited by those who are now drawing fire from the newspaper. Threats against other newspaper employees are being made. They quoted to us cases of both anonymous phone calls and letters in which it was said openly: "If you are going to write [what you've been writing] you will end up like Nikiforov."

The situation in Komsomolskiy Rayon remains tense. Nikolay's friend, specialist of the RAPO [Rayon Agro-Industrial Association] Shabanov, died. He was found in the bath of the house next to his. People refuse to believe that this was a random death. They demand that those who took part in persecuting the journalist be relocated from the rayon; they are not satisfied with the course of the investigation.

"It is a matter of our professional honor to solve this crime. After all, we also are in moral debt to Nikolay," assured us, and subsequently the citizens with whom the leaders of the republic met in a rural club, Minister of Internal Affairs of Chuvashia Yu. Nazarov.

"We do not intend to retreat, no matter what kind of difficulties we are going to encounter,"—these are the words of Ye. Zhuchkov, prosecutor of the republic.

However, investigator for particularly important cases at the republic prosecutor's office S. Illarionov, who heads the investigating team, is very much concerned with someone spreading provocative rumors on purpose, and trying to lead the investigation astray. In front of the rayon prosecutor's office, relatives of Sultanova, who was fired from the department store and, at one point, arrested, went on a hunger strike. She was immediately set free, and got a job at another shop, which caused a new wave of outrage in the rayon. There is no end to anonymous threats against those who know anything at all about the last hours in the life of Nikolay Nikiforov. An employee of the rayon committee of komsomol who returned from a business trip over the rayon said that at the "Alga" collective farm ethnic problems were being aggravated in an artificial manner. Someone badly needs to draw the attention of the public and law enforcement organs away from the murder of journalist Nikiforov....

Economic

Soviet Currency Spending, Policy Analyzed

PM2206152989 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Jun 89 Morning Edition p 5

[Article by M. Berger: "How We Spend Currency"]

[Text] Quite lengthy and persistent press criticism of our foreign economic policy and, in particular, our currency policy was needed; endlessly reiterated and deliberately stressed quotations from exclusively foreign sources (in the absence of sources of our own) about our currency and credit dealings were needed; and, finally, keen debates in the Congress of USSR People's Deputies about the need for (or impossibility of) attracting new credits from the West were required for us to hear official and hitherto utterly secret information about the state of our currency affairs.

Nothing collapsed, all the pillars remained whole, and—the main thing—an opportunity appeared to conduct a thorough talk about a subject that perturbs everyone: Whether to take consumer goods on credit on the world market and if not on credit, then using what revenue, and if not on the world market, then where?

No one disputes any longer that goods are undoubtedly necessary—all kinds of goods in any quantity. Despite the fact that statistics have recorded for the first time that the growth rate of group "B" production has outstripped the growth rate of group "A," totalling R70 billion according to modest assessments and R150 billion according to "immodest" assessments, demand remains unsatisfied. Even if we take the mean between these two extreme figures, the picture is more than impressive. Understandably, with this "breach" the ship of restructuring will experience very grave difficulties: not only the lose of speed and freedom of maneuver. It looks as if the question of losing buoyancy will arise.

It is clear that extreme and extraordinary measures are needed. What measures? The government is steering industry toward a R45-50 billion increase in the production of nonfood goods in 1990. Those are the estimated requirements. But will these growth rates be successfully achieved? After all, for that it is necessary to surpass the average annual increases of the present 5-year plan almost fivefold.

N.P. Shmelev, who came up in the debates with a quite developed economic program, expressed among others his well known proposal: sharply increasing purchases of consumer goods with hard currency. He expressed this proposal, emphasizing that he disagrees with the head of government, who believes that such measures are hard to implement.

Early this year trade had already received a relatively small but still tangible sum over and above the plan—R600 million—for the purchase of imports. The newspapers reported this with justified enthusiasm. How palpable this additional supply of goods (by approximately R5 billion) will be on our drained market is hard to say, we shall see. I merely want to note one thing in particular: About one-third of this sum has unfortunately (and to our shame!) had to be spent on soap and detergents.

It is of course understandable that we cannot leave people without soap or washing powder, but nonetheless there is not and cannot be any forgiveness for us here. It is intolerable that we should spend currency on what we could and must make ourselves in the necessary quantities—after all this is not video equipment or computers! All this is abnormal, as abnormal as it is, for instance, to import 40 percent of the wool, potatoes, or onions we consume...

Of course, even if it had not been spent on soap, that R200 million would not have saved 300 million consumers.

Well, how much is needed to save them, by repairing the breach of unsatisfied demand? In N.P. Shmelev's opinion, to avoid the switch to a universal rationing system, the rampaging of the black market, and the complete collapse of the consumer market, one-off imports worth approximately $15 billion and top-ups of $5 billion or $6 billion over the next 2-3 years are essential together with other measures.

Those who heard or read N.P. Shmelev's speech probably also remember the sources he indicated for these essential funds. Reducing imports of grain and meat by providing currency incentives for local producers. Freezing the import of equipment for our giant projects for several years. Cutting back currency servicing of our interests in Latin America. And, finally, taking credit to purchase goods.

In his concluding speech N.I. Ryzhkov cited the figures for our foreign debts and our revenue and expenditure in hard currency, including the servicing of debts, that is the payment of interest. This was the first time these figures had been given in our country, which makes it possible to switch the talk on this topic from the field of economic journalism to the field of economic arithmetic. There are no grounds for doubting the conclusion drawn in the report "on the program for the USSR Government's forthcoming activity": Foreign economic debts have reached a dangerous boundary line.

It must be borne in mind that the 34 billion are rubles, while we owe convertible currency. If we convert it at the official exchange rate, our debt is over $50 billion. A very impressive, albeit not catastrophic sum. It is true that it is hard to draw unambiguous conclusions about the size of debt burdens without knowing the structure of the foreign debt and the size of currency reserves. We shall hope that we will soon be able to make use of these figures too.

Some conclusions may be drawn from the sum spent on servicing the credit—R12 billion. Given the interest rate which has taken shape on the world credit market this figure says that it is short-term financial circumstances, all operations on which begin and end within a year, which predominate in the structure of our overall indebtedness. In fact the sum of interest payments with a debt of $34 billion would at worst (and so far we are not being offered the worst terms) be approximately R3 billion.

Evidently in a hurry which it must be supposed is understandable in a situation where the deputies' demands must be met immediately and moreover in a sphere formerly completely closed to public discussion, the people who prepared these figures have added to the interest our short-term commitments which it is not customary to count in world practice when calculating the debt servicing norm. (For instance we have taken a short-term loan of 1 billion and 1.5 billion elsewhere, and we will pay them back this year). To all appearances these sums were joined to the interest on long-term loans—which is how the figure of R12 billion was obtained. You cannot explain that figure otherwise.

Although, of course, money must be paid both on interest and on short-term credits, and that is a difficult matter. It is true that it is difficult to weigh up completely the degree of "difficulty" of our debts without knowing how much is owed to us and what our currency stocks are. According to Western figures, (there are unfortunately no domestic figures so far) our balances in accounts in Western banks are $10-14 billion. What else we have there is not known. Nor is how much is owed to us. All this taken together may be more than our foreign debts. You only have to consider that our debts are in hard currency and debts to us are mainly in unconvertible rubles.

In principle in the solution of the question of credits paramount importance attaches not so much to the size of the debt as to the possibility of paying it off. The terms under which loans are granted depend on this. Today we enjoy first-class terms. It is true that there are also luxury terms—for the developed capitalist countries—but among the powers with nonconvertible national currencies we are in the best position for a debtor. And the thesis that we have approached and even in some places crossed the dangerous debt boundary is primarily true precisely from that viewpoint. Credits can still be taken but on different, tougher terms and at a higher interest rate. Then we run a real risk of switching to a different, lower "category" and being among the debtor countries with less than the best reputation.

That we are balancing on this "boundary line of trust" is also borne out by the fact that last year it was not without difficulty that we managed to obtain credit worth R2.2 billion on acceptable terms to modernize enterprises of the light and food industry.

It is of course possible, by using the political capital accumulated by our foreign policy activity, to enlist the support of the governments of the creditor-countries and to obtain some further sum on first-class terms. But in any case credit for goods is given at a considerably higher interest rate than credit for equipment and within different, shorter, deadlines. That is understandable. Imagine that you have come into a bank and asked for a loan for 10 years to get a pair of boots. Any banker, even the least sophisticated, will ask: Within a year or 2 your boots will be moldering on the garbage heap yet you will still be paying for them?

The question of credits in the situation which has taken shape in our country is a conceptual, even a political, question. It is essential to determine the path along which we intend to resolve our problems. If we agree to transfer to the ranks of second-class debtors we can continue to build up debts. We should merely realize that it is extremely difficult, sometimes impossible, to regain a lost reputation as a first-class debtor. And then will we "close" the question in that way? If there were a firm conviction that we will have saturated our market within 2-3 years and will have come out with new goods on the world market, drastically increasing our currency receipt, it would be possible to discuss whether it is worth risking our reputation. But unfortunately so far we have no such conviction. Losses from the fall in oil prices are growing. And the share of machinery and equipment exports to the developed capitalist countries is just 3 percent.

So it is not even a case of the absolute size of the foreign debt but of the kind of economy to which the funds are paid—a reformed and effective economy or one that continues to remain a pre-reform economy. Can we count on an increase in currency revenue while one-fifth or even one-third of the output we export is returned to individual ministries for modification and while expenditure on the presale preparation of tractors is up to 90 percent of the contract price?

Yes, credits are a serious matter. But if we display caution in credit policy it should extend not only to consumer goods but also to the means of production. But here we are not so circumspect. The "Tengizpolimer" gas complex cannot do without credits, and credits worth billions of dollars at that. And although, as the journal KOMMUNIST (No. 8, 1969) writes, to this day there is no full-scale technical and economic feasibility study for this project without which the taking of a decision, in the opinion of specialists, could led to unpredictable consequences for the country's economy, construction is proceeding.

The construction of the gas and chemical complex in Tyumen Oblast will require far larger credits in hard currency. The technical and economic feasibility study is still not ready yet the ministries involved are persistently demanding that work be begun "in the meantime"—the study will come.

Perhaps this complex is indeed extremely necessary but we must not discount here the fact that to implement this project, according to approximate calculations, we will also need to attract credits where the billions of dollars will run into two figures. Against this background the proposal to earmark several billion for goods looks almost a modest request.

So what are we to do with currency for the consumer market? Not, of course, to use it to help avoid the solution of of the problem of the domestic production of goods. Indeed you cannot saturate the consumer market with imports alone—no money would be sufficient. Buying in order to get the market out of a crisis and somehow to balance it for the immediate future while the country's main economic forces regroup —that is the aim.

Virtually everyone with whom I discussed this problem at the USSR COuncil of Ministers State Foreign Economic Commission, the USSR State Bank, and the Foreign Economic Bank agreed that it would be useful to increase purchases of goods. Here N.P. SHmelev is undoubtedly right. The whole question lies in the sources of funds for these purposes. The majority of opinions comes down to taking currency for goods, primarily from ourselves. This, incidentally, was also mentioned at the Congress. Why do we purchase grain in such colossal amounts every year? Who justifies such volumes of purchases and how and with what? Would it not be better, as has been proposed, to give part of the currency to our peasants and to buy consumer goods with the rest? Such persistent refusal to accept this idea makes you wonder if we have a "grain lobby" in our country very interested in such contracts.

It is essential to resolutely itemize the currency appetites of our industrial ministries. Because the funds earmarked under the so-called currency plan can be spent anyhow, without being particularly concerned for the effectiveness of investments. Last year of 118 projects nearing completion and being equipped on the basis of complete sets of imported equipment only 57 were commissioned. That means that the new consignment of goods purchased for hard currency will end up in the depots and on the construction sites. The cost of last year's increase in machinery imports which were immobilized for this reason totalled R578 million. The total sum of the currency thus frozen is known—about R5 billion. That is not the 200 million found with difficulty for washing powder and soap... You should look at the currency application from the Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy, which has already accumulated nearly R0.5 billions worth of uninstalled imported equipment, or the currency demands of the Ministry of the Chemical Industry (its stocks of this kind are worth R0.33 billion) or the Ministry of the Timber Industry (R0.25 billion). Should they be given new currency if that is how they disposed of the "old?" And if they are given new currency because of some extremely dire necessity, then it should be in different amounts and on different terms.

Yes, taking credits from goods means eating up currency. But is it really better to dispose of it in that way? In my opinion it is worse than eating it up or even squandering it. In that case at least you have memories left. It is true that I believe that those who have traveled to sign contracts for equipment which is not needed now also have memories. And here is one more delicate aspect of our foreign trade problems—the aspect of personal interests, which considerably influence the policy of purchases. I heard the following opinion from one authority in the currency field. Why, he said, is our trade with China, for instance, not developing as actively as I think it could? It is hard to cite any specific facts here, to grab hold of someone, but I am convinced that one reason is that people prefer to travel to Western Europe rather than to China to sign contracts.

A sad opinion, particularly against the background of our very acute problems, against the background of the annual hard currency earning of R16 billion—a shameful figure for a power like ours. The time has obviously come, considering the acuteness and complexity of currency and credit problems, to submit them for discussion to our parliament and to one of its commissions (or special subcommission) where there is not place, or at least should be no place, for either departmental or personal interests.

Ministers Claim Measures Will Meet Soap Demand

PM2206102189 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Jun 89 Second Edition p 4

[Reply by V. Murakhovskiy, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and K. Terekh, USSR minister of trade, to reader's letter (published 19 May) under the general heading "You Are Waiting for an Answer"—first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Excerpts] Under the rubric "You Are Waiting for an Answer" a letter from P. Lyalin was published 19 May which acutely raised questions about the shortage of detergents and soap. [Passage omitted]

In 1984-1987 a drop in the demand for detergents was noted. Reserves in trade and industry increased, and this had a definite effect on the formation of production plans: They were not essentially increased.

A sudden explosion in demand for detergents occurred at the end of 1988, although market allocations had not been reduced either in 1987 or in 1988. Last year, for example, the sale of detergents increased by 14 percent.

Measures have been taken to sharply increase their production. This year more than 150,000 tonnes of synthetic detergents, more than 24,000 tonnes of household soap, and more than 50,000 tonnes of toilet soap will be produced. In addition to this, more than 200,000 tonnes of washing powder and 47,000 tonnes of toilet soap have been purchased abroad. This has made it possible in 1989 to increase market allocations for synthetic detergents by 30 percent, for toilet soap by 40 percent, and for household soap by 7 percent.

Soviet soap industry enterprises could have increased soap production even more. But they are experiencing an acute shortage of caustic and calcined soda and synthetic fatty acids.

The USSR Council of Ministers has examined all questions of providing the soap industry with the necessary resources and materials. Instructions have been given to the USSR State Committee for Material and Technical Supply, the USSR Ministry of the Chemical Industry, and the USSR Ministry of the Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry. The task has been set of increasing household soap production by an additional 10 percent.

We want to draw readers' attention once again to the fact that the shortage has been caused not so much by a real increase in demand and interruptions in production as by a commotion over soap. Sales of all detergents in the first quarter of the year in comparison with the corresponding period last year increased by 20 percent, and in some cities it doubled or trebled! It is precisely this that forced local authorities in a number of regions to introduce sales restrictions.

The increased demand for detergents is directly connected with various conjectures and rumors about a cut in the production of cheap soap. It should be noted that the proportion of expensive types of toilet soap in the "Ekstra" group in recent years has not essentially increased and amounts to 7-8 percent of the total output.

The measures being taken to increase the production of washing powders and soap and to buy more of them abroad will make it possible to meet the population's needs in full. We take full responsibility in making this statement.

Lithuanian Economic Independence Proposals Viewed

18001204 Vilnius SOVETSKAYA LITVA in Russian 2 Jun 89 p 2

[Interview with Algirdas Buchas, candidate of economic sciences, deputy director of the Lithuanian SSR State Planning Committee's Scientific Research Institute for the Economy and Planning, by unidentified SOVETSKAYA LITVA coorespondent; date, place not specified: "Blind Alleys of the Economy: Ways Out Are Possible"]

[Text] **A session of the Supreme Soviet of our republic has passed a law on the economic independence of the republic. However, passing the law is just the first step on the long and arduous way to economic transformations in the national economy. Its implementation is unavoidably linked with seeking specific arrangements for and further development of democratic forms of economic management—not only a plurality of opinions, but also a variety of forms of economic operations. For this reason, the editors of SOVETSKAYA LITVA have resolved to continue publishing materials in the column "Republic Economic Accountability: How To Make It Real," in which major economists, leaders, and specialists of various ranks have already made statements in our newspaper, voicing their attitudes on an array of problems. Inviting our readers to this weighty conversation, we hope that many of them will share their own experience of actual implementation of the law on an everyday basis.**

Today, our column carries an interview with Algirdas Buchas, candidate of economic sciences, deputy director of the Lithuanian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] State Planning Committee's Scientific Research Institute for the Economy and Planning, by a SOVETSKAYA LITVA correspondent.

[SOVETSKAYA LITVA] In April, SOVETSKAYA LITVA published a conversation with Kazimer Prunskene, doctor of economic sciences and USSR people's deputy, in which she quite clearly outlined her interpretation of the issue of transition in the republic to full economic independence, economic accountability....

[Buchas] Our collective has familiarized itself with this edition of your newspaper. We share the position of Dr Prunskene in its entirety. If your questions are going to be similar, I have virtually nothing to add to her responses.

[SOVETSKAYA LITVA] Indeed, the questions are mainly the same. However, judging by the letters and calls to the editorial office following that publication, our readers are now particularly interested in specific scenarios for switching to republic economic accountability: real, practical steps and the time frame for this transition, the ways and rate at which it is going to be carried out in industry and agriculture. Finally, do specific, as opposed to "conceptual," scenarios of transition to economic accountability by economists exist, and, if yes, why have they not been released?

[Buchas] Such scenarios exist, though completing them will take much time and effort. Probably upsetting the proponents of immediate restructuring in the entire national economy, I must say that in itself the transition to complete republic economic accountability will require a good deal of time—as we estimate, 15 years; at best, between 10 and 7 years. The economy is a colossus which carries a tremendous charge of inertia; its vector will not be easily changed.

Difficulties begin right at the level of planning practical steps. Many ideas, sound from the managerial and economic point of view, get bogged down even at the initial stage at the Gosplan [State Planning Commission], the Ministry of Finance, and other departments. This is primarily due to the contradictions between the conceptual planks of transition to economic independence, and the still operating management system which embodies all the drawbacks of non-economic methods of managing the national economy.

Let us take, say, the Goskomsnab [State Committee for Material and Technical Supply]. Its specialists have a very good idea of how to set up, say, wholesale trade in raw materials, semi-finished goods, rolled metal, lumber, a certain assortment of subcontracted parts which the republic needs, and so forth. However, how is this to be done given the entrenched practice of allocation by quota—that is, the virtual "rationing" of necessary resources, when everyone gets a little bit? Which employee of the Goskomsnab is going to risk transferring these "little bits" to somebody, while not giving them to someone else, if in doing so he potentially assumes the role of a notorious scapegoat in the event of a failure in a given sector of the economy? We can understand such an employee from a simple, human point of view.

As it is, "everyone" takes this "little bit" regardless of the degree of their need, just in case, despite the fact that in an environment of economic accountability a definite loss may occur. It is taken for stocks, tying up some of their capital in the process. However, once again this is understandable. Say, here is an example: This year, deliveries of lumber to our republic are falling considerably short of the plan requirement. Nonetheless, the furniture industry of the republic has been successfully meeting the quotas set thus far. I would hardly divulge a secret if I were to say that the very resources accumulated just in case have been saving the day—thus far, once again.

[SOVETSKAYA LITVA] However, here we have a vicious circle. Accumulating the "little bits" just in case not only ties up capital for a while, but also exacerbates the shortage of certain resources in another sector of the national economy. This, in turn, apparently prompts certain echelons to tighten the "rationing" of stocks, despite, as is commonly known, the resources being allocated of which a certain shortage is felt in the first place. However, there has got to be some way out of this vicious circle, an opportunity to break it?

[Buchas] There definitely is a way out, though it is not simple. At first, as I see it, this could be the establishment of direct links between enterprises and industrial associations, and not only with the suppliers of the goods they need, say, raw materials, rolled metal, subcontracted parts, and so forth. Incidentally, given the use of contractual, mutually advantageous prices as well, this way may become the beginning, the first stage of genuine market relations in our economy. In the process, I do not rule out mutually advantageous exchange of products, when the supplier of raw materials or other goods receives a certain segment of contractual value in the form of the final product of its client, and the other way around.

Obviously, this situation is only possible if spare capacity is available at enterprises—free from state orders which, frequently applying to all 100 percent of production capacity, are becoming a serious impediment in the way of economic restructuring. The logic of restructuring is such that initially such orders should be reduced to a minimum, and subsequently cease to exist at all as a controlling factor. Unfortunately, thus far various economic sectors are forced to yield to the fiat of the state orders, because the material resources necessary for production are allocated in conjunction with them—the very resources allocated by quota.... Even then, it is not necessarily in the amount required.

This very entrenched practice is one of the most powerful devices of the administrative-command system of management of the national economy. Until this system is torn down and replaced by another system, talking about genuinely economic methods of managing the national economy is altogether useless.

Still—I will repeat myself—direct links between the consumer and the supplier of raw materials or subcontractor are but the first step toward creating market relations and free trade, including wholesale, in our national economy. I think that in the long run intercompany and even intersectoral associations and cooperatives, specializing in meeting the material and technical needs of the economy of our republic (rather than allocating supplies) should develop on a broad scale. It is becoming necessary to set them up because they would have considerably greater opportunities for mutually advantageous exchanges and trade than an individual enterprise, or even an industrial association with its unavoidably more or less narrow assortment of products.

However, the issue of where such a cooperative should obtain initial capital arises. The resources which their clients require call for tremendous investment, most frequently going into millions. The state will not provide such loans; it does not have this kind of money anyway...

[SOVETSKAYA LITVA] What if, in compliance with the spirit of restructuring, the loan will be not purely financial in nature, but financial-and-merchandise, that is, some of it will be provided in the form of the very material resources needed for production? After all, in this case, taking the nature of cooperatives into account, the shortest route of "merchandise-to-money" in terms of time is provided. This promises tremendous advantages to all sides—the supplier, the consumer of resources, and the cooperative itself, which in this case will be given an opportunity to come into its own rapidly. After all, it is altogether counterproductive for the cooperative to tie up capital even for a short period of time at the warehouse; the flexibility of resources should increase sharply in this case. This is also advantageous for the state.

[Buchas] Probably, there is a grain of rationality in this idea, though it calls for diligent development and... yet again, consent by certain command and administrative echelons because most of the resources we are talking about are outside the boundaries of our republic.

I believe I have responded to your question, though I have only touched on the group of issues associated with material and technical supply. Of course, there are many more such problems on the road to complete economic autonomy, including the problems about which Dr Prunskene has made quite exhaustive statements. I would not like to repeat what she has said, even "in a more practical aspect."

[SOVETSKAYA LITVA] Still, you have touched mainly on the problems of the industrial sector of our economy. What are the prospects in the agricultural sector, especially in conjunction with the draft Law on Peasant Farmsteads, the consideration of which was postponed at the previous session of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR, and which will probably be considered by the next session of the people's deputies of the republic?

[Buchas] Lithuania has long been waiting for this law. It is badly needed. However, we need not just a law, but a law which is good in every respect. It is no accident that serious complaints were made about its draft at the last session. As I see it, having said "a" in the draft law, we should also say "b." I mean the right to own land, being in favor of a variety of forms of such ownership, a variety of forms of economic operations.

As many economists believe, the peasant should have the right to buy the land from the state, receiving complete ownership of it. Otherwise, it is difficult to expect a serious improvement in the culture of farming in peasant farmsteads, and, therefore, serious increases in production. Here is why.

According to the draft law, the status of the peasant as a lessee remains, regardless of the duration of land utilization. This means that, in the event the lease contract is canceled, and this can be done for a good many reasons, the lessee will be obligated to simply return the land to the landlord, in principle, without taking into account its price, which has changed. After all, it is no secret that increasing the culture of farming, which is the goal of the draft Law on Peasant Farmsteads, calls for a good deal of continuous capital investment. The value of land should unavoidably change, increase as a result of such investment, as well as a considerable labor input by the peasant, his family, as well as hired labor from the outside, which, expectedly, will not come cheap.

Here is one more aspect. Farming always entails some risk, dependence of the harvest on the weather in summer, explosive spread of particular pests or diseases, and so forth. Therefore, the peasant farmstead needs not only social and legal, but also economic protection. One of the ways for such protection should be found in the opportunity to put the land up as a collateral in, say, a land bank, get a loan at another, possibly, peasant bank, or incur debt at yet another bank, a cooperative one, of which the peasant himself may be a shareholder. However, only an owner of the land may engage in any of these operations with confidence, whereas a lessee hardly will, and definitely will not where a collateral is involved. After all, an owner has a right to sell the land as well, and at a price which is in line with the new level of its fertility, which has developed as a result of labor and financial input invested. Certainly, this new value should be determined by a competent commission having the status of a state commission in order to avoid possible abuses and speculation. However, the farmer should have the absolute right to freely sell the land he has purchased from the state, and to be compensated for the difference between its initial and accumulated value (incidentally, due to the careless use the value may also drop).

We can expect an uproar of outrage on the part of some "orthodox" persons: What is it, a return to the private ownership of land, to kulaks?! This, incidentally, is an example of inimitable lack of logic, whereby one set of principles is stated, and another one is actually accepted for guidance, because officially we state that the family is the primary cell of society. However, if it is so, then why should we not consider the land holdings of this cell as well to be a component of social property? It is all the more so because the state remains the general owner of all of its land anyway. Even in the event of a sale, the private owner will not give the land lot purchased to either Canada or Australia, but will transfer it for a certain sum of money to a similar cell of Soviet society.

In general, I believe that we are in no danger of the emergence of kulaks. The current labor resources in rural areas are too restricted for that, and the surplus of unoccupied land in many regions is obvious. A family which has resolved to operate a peasant farmstead may depend mainly on its resources and potential only, plus sporadic hiring of farm hands at harvest time from among college and senior grade school students who are free in summer, as well as a small segment of urban dwellers who miss working on the land.

Personally, I am not ecstatic about the opportunity for a massive renaissance of peasant farmsteads. It will hardly happen. There are many reasons for this. In one case, this is the high standard of remuneration for labor, and provision of housing and services in the economically sound, profitable collective and state farms, of which there are dozens in our republic. In another case, this is the developed and emerging traditions of collective organization of labor—say, cooperatives, organization of lessees, safeguarded by the material and technical resources of—once again—collective and state farms. There are causes number three and four, but the main one is the absence of necessary compact machinery, say, tractors with a necessary set of equipment and implements for field work, technical units for mechanizing relatively small stock farms with different functions, and appropriate means of transportation. Presumably, in the few years to come agricultural machinebuilding will have to address the issue of producing compact machinery. The demand for mammoth tractors such as the K-700 and T-150 with corresponding trailer systems is now declining abruptly; on the other hand, compact machinery is needed not only for eventual peasant farms, but for hundreds and thousands of present-day and future lessees, and even those who are not planning to increase the size of their present-day land lots.

Unfortunately, the process of reconstructing tractor and agricultural machinery building is also advancing extremely slowly. However, it is to be expected that at present, in conjunction with the abrupt change in the structure of demand, the sales trend and life itself will make the machinebuilders speed up the pace of expected changes.

Despite all of the above, we should not diminish the significance of passing the Law on Peasant Farmsteads. It will create an entirely new environment in rural areas. This is first of all the villager's feeling of complete freedom in opting for any of the alternative forms of ownership which lies closer to his heart, be it leasing a stock farm or even an entire field crop rotation [cycle], simple peasant farmstead or specialized agricultural cooperative, collective contract with remuneration based on the final result, or even an association for collective land cultivation, in which only the machinery is in the "joint" fund, but not the land or harvest. There are many other possible forms of self-organization of labor on the land which life will suggest. In principle, the Law on Peasant Farmsteads, when adopted, will become a guarantor of the freedom to choose any one form.

[SOVETSKAYA LITVA] Fair principles of price-setting are one of the premises for a transition to genuine economic accountability. Prices for various products and goods now in effect frequently reflect nothing but a departmental approach to their level, which is often exacerbated by the monopolistic nature of production....

[Buchas] I believe that prices should basically become contractual, and they will become such by virtue of forthcoming market relations. However, you are right in that the monopolistic nature of production, as well as the arbitrary, office-and-administrative manner of setting prices prompt us to look for a mechanism of scientifically and economically sound price setting. We see a way out, on the one hand, in the state encouraging the emergence and development of competing producers, and, on the other, in setting a certain range, limit for prices.

Incidentally, as our practice shows, under our conditions monopoly prices are not a panacea for any trouble. Let us take procurement prices for agricultural products as an example. Look how many times they have been raised in an attempt to make agricultural production profitable! However, in 4 to 5 years everything would return to where it used to be: due to the temporary "surplus" of money, the producer does not mind the expenditures too much, and uses them in order to camouflage his own economic failings. I would say that monopoly prices are even a factor which paralyzes technical and economic production. In no way do they promote a creative search in engineering and economics; they cause stagnation in production.

[SOVETSKAYA LITVA] As you see it, in light of the transition to full economic accountability, which are the highest priority sectors in the economy of our republic, and what are the prospects for them?

[Buchas] The highest priority is to saturate the internal market, primarily that of our republic, with consumer goods. This is why we will have to make light and processing industries, including food processing, our priority for the near future. A lot of work on reconstructing and modernizing it is in store for us.

On the whole, the industry of our republic will continue to be oriented toward the national economic complex of the USSR. Our ties with it, which have evolved over decades, have assumed such a nature that any attempt to sever them would greatly harm the economy of quite a few regions of the country, including Lithuania itself. Besides, we are simply not prepared to enter the international market on a broad scale yet.

However, the very logic of development is prompting us to break through to the hard-currency market. We need hard currency badly. In the initial period, I view comprehensive development of tourism as one of the main sources of it; tourism requires a minimum of capital investment, and may ensure a high profit margin. Many West European countries, as well as our friends in Eastern Europe, with highly developed technology, do not only fail to shy away from developing tourism, but promote it in a variety of ways. We should make use of this experience.

[SOVETSKAYA LITVA] I have heard on many occasion statements by managers of enterprises and farms, and functionaries of some informal organizations who pinned their hopes on setting up a free economic zone in the Baltic area, including Lithuania, on expanding international trade, and the opportunity to purchase "Western" technologies, and build joint enterprises.

[Buchas] I would not pin my hopes on such opportunities. An elementary economic analysis of the operation of Western industrialists shows that they mainly place in other countries heavy, "dirty" industries which are labor-intensive. Naturally, in the process countries are selected for such capital investment in which labor, hired hands are the cheapest. However, what does cheap labor mean? It means unskilled labor, based on the simplest operations, which does not even require special skills. Counting on some company wanting to become our selfless benefactor by taking part in building and operating a high-tech production facility is at the very least naive. Besides, having exhausted the potential of the production developed, such a partner will simply withdraw from it, and we will be left holding the bag.

After all, even the technologies we buy in the West for hard currency are, as a rule, obsolete, yesterday's technologies.

Lithuania is a developed country. We can and should create our own technologies of a world standard. We have enough intellectual resources, just let them operate freely.

No, I do not rule out setting up joint enterprises, and acquiring the necessary technologies which thus far have not been developed here. However, I believe that this is not the main avenue for developing our economy, but merely a path running parallel to it, which plays an auxiliary role, say, that of an additional source of hard-currency proceeds, but nothing more.

Scientific

'Raduga-1' Communications Satellite Launched 22 Jun

LD2206120689 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1210 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow, 22 Jun (TASS)—The "Raduga-1" communications satellite was launched by a "Proton" carrier-rocket in the USSR today. On board is a multichannel relay apparatus ensuring further expansion of telephone and telegraph radio communication on the territory of the USSR. The satellite has been put into a stationary orbit with the following parameters: Distance from the earth's surface—36,538 km; period of revolution around the earth—24 hrs, 32 min; inclination of orbit—1.5 degrees. The apparatus on board the satellite is working normally.

'Astron' Space Observatory in Orbit for 6 Years

LD2206174389 Moscow TASS in English 1708 GMT 22 jun 89

[Text] Moscow June 22 TASS—The Soviet space observatory "Astron" which was meant to exist for a year has been in space for six years, reporters were told at the scientific test centre today. A meeting of the state commission that supervised the satellite's flight was held there. As reserves of gas in the engines for orientation and stabilisation were running out, and since solar batteries, because of a long stay in the aggressive space medium, were functioning worse, the panel of specialists decided to conclude the scientific program and sum up its results before the satellite goes out of order.

As many as 100,000 commands were sent to the satellite from the ground in six years of its operation. Only eight of them have not been performed. 628 Communications sessions were held instead of the planned 230. Spectra of 130 stars were registered by means of the ultra-violet telescope created by Soviet and French scientists.

The ultra-violet telescope was trained not only on stars, but also on galaxies and nebulae, on Halley's Comet that passed close to the earth and other comets. Discoveries have been made. For instance, an unusually large number of hot stars was discovered in the galaxies.

Using an x-ray telescope, astronomers witnessed for the first time how pulsars are increasing and decreasing in size which is accompanied by variations in their brightness. Astronomers also observed the rotation of neutron stars, the gradual change in the duration of the travel of pulses of X-ray emission from pulsars.

The results of the work were published in more than 40 scientific journals and were reported at 12 international scientific meetings.

The new space observatory "granat" is now being created on the basis of Astron's stands-by. The new observatory is to be put in orbit at the end of the year.

Arkhangelsk Diamond Deposit Discovery Reported

PM2106152389 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Jun 89 Morning Edition p 2

[Report by TASS correspondent V. Anufriyev: "Arkhangelsk Diamonds"]

[Text] The Arkhangelsk geologists have had a rare piece of good fortune. In the southeastern part of the White Sea region they have discovered a diamond province. The deposit has been named for the great "Arkhangelsk peasant" M.V. Lomonosov. And this is not simply a tribute of respect to the brilliant son of the White Sea Coast. The scientist and encyclopedist can rightly be called the godfather of Arkhangelsk diamonds. In his works he indicated the presence of those precious minerals in the subterranean stores here. Historical documents also preserve information about this. Thus, in archive materials the Arkhangelsk geologists found a mention of the fact that a large diamond was discovered in the White Sea region in the reign of Anna Ioannovna.

"This fact was one of the few which maintained our faith in success, because the discovery was made counter to the scientific forecast and was the result of a planned and scrupulous geological study of the territory of Arkhangelsk Oblast," Yu. Rossikhin, general director of the "Arkhangelskgeologiya" association, commented.

Military

Lizichev Briefs Tankmen on Congress Results

PM2206085989 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Jun 89 First Edition p 1

[Lieutenant Colonel A. Oliynik report as part of feature entitled "Deputies Accounting for Themselves": "At a Crucial Stage of Restructuring"]

[Text] The results of the Congress of USSR People's Deputies, which is now over, and the tasks at the crucial stage of restructuring in the Soviet Armed Forces were at the focus of attention during a meeting between USSR People's Deputy Army General A. Lizichev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, and the personnel of the Kantemir Guards Yu.V. Andropov Tank Division.

Army Gen A. Lizichev had brief impromtu conversations with the soldiers and officers. The main topic was the way the Congress affected people's moral-political state and what is intended in terms of the expansion of democratic principles in military collectives. Emphasis was placed on the need for an individual approach toward every person when he is discharged as a result of cutbacks and for improved forms and methods of party political work at the new stage of restructuring.

These conversations continued, as it were, at a meeting with representatives of the division's units and subunits held in the garrison Officers' Club.

The Congress of USSR People's Deputies, Army Gen A. Lizichev emphasized, is a major event in the history of the state; it brought our society to a new stage in the development of socialist democracy and glasnost and backed the course of restructuring.

The report by M.S. Gorbachev, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, provided an in-depth analysis of the restructuring processes now under way in our multinational country and mapped out a political program and an economic program which are geared as much as possible to profound transformations in the social and economic spheres, and primarily to the working man's needs.

Army Gen A. Lizichev dwelt in detail on basic questions of the country's defense, military building, and military budget cutbacks which had been discussed at the Congress. He noted that restructuring in the Army and Navy today relies mainly on the qualitative parameters of their development and the further enhancement of the personnel's political-moral state.

The Congress also heard criticism of the Army, the speaker said. Deputies correctly identified the shortcomings we still experience in imposing regulation order and discipline, and there was a lot of talk about so-called bullying. At the same time it is impossible to accept the attempts to compromise the Army, its veterans, and the internationalist soldiers, which, by the way, were not backed by the Congress.

The leadership of the Ministry of Defense and the Main Political Directorate, USSR People's Deputy Army Gen A. Lizichev said in conclusion, is firmly convinced that our commanders and political workers, the organization of Army Communists with its more than 1 million members, will honorably perform the important tasks set by the Congress as regards strengthening the Soviet Armed Forces and will do everything to raise the Army's and Navy's combat readiness and defense capability to a new level.

Army Gen A. Lizichev answered numerous question asked by Kantemir Division soldiers.

Baltic Navigation Restrictions Reduced

PM2206100589 Tallinn SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA in Russian 7 Jun 89 p 3

[V. Syrnikov ETA report: "Restrictions Removed"]

[Text] The Defense Ministry has opened 28 previously closed maritime regions, although not Kruzenshtern or Bellinsgausen, in the USSR territorial waters with an overall area of over 3,000 square km, most of it in the Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic's sea area.

The official answer, number 903/312, from Vice Admiral Komarov, chief of the USSR Navy Main Staff, on the opening of a number of maritime zones is the result of the persistent and purposeful work of the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace and the "Kondor" marine ecology expedition from Tallinn.

The lifting of the ban means that ships can now chart their courses through these waters and fishermen can pursue their trade. Apart from its practical significance, this step aims to broaden the areas of water available for peaceful exploitation and to restrict the naval arms race in the Baltic region of the world ocean.

The designations and numbers of the regions being opened will be published in the near future in a special publication of IZVESHCHENIYA MOREPLAVATELYAM [Information for Mariners] and in the newspaper VODNYY TRANSPORT. The question of opening a number of other regions in the near future is being examined.

Poor Quality of Naval Equipment Discussed

18010714 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 May 89 First Edition pp 1-2

[Article by Captain 3d Rank P. Ishchenko, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent: "Ships and Rubles"]

[Text] "There is never a month," said Captain 3d Rank Ye. Murashov, "when representatives from industry are not working on our missile cruiser Vice Admiral Drozd. We have many problems, for example, with ordnance radar stations, for practically every time we go to sea they are prepared not by ship specialists, but specialists from industry. And a number of other kinds of technical equipment are constantly in their charge.

"The venerable age of the cruiser is not the only, but perhaps the major reason for the fairly frequent and by no means inexpensive repair jobs on its radioelectronic and other 'insides.' Concerning other ships as well, ones of much more modern construction, there is great familiarity with the problem of quality and reliability of technical equipment and armament delivered to the Navy by the defense industry. Although the tactical-technical specifications of models of arms and technical equipment installed on ships are unquestionably high, their quality and reliability in operation do not always meet the high standards placed on them today. And so the need for repair comes more frequently than we would like it to."

"As soon as a ship comes into the Navy," says Captain 2d Rank S. Pryadkin, deputy section chief of the missile-ordnance arms administration, "we immediately open up a special file for it in which we collect all the complaint correspondence with the manufacturing plants. And these files fill up very quickly. The destroyer Otlichnyy recently brought 12 complaints at once from combat duty, and the missile cruiser Marshal Ustinov, 32. And this is only for missile-ordnance arms."

It is not surprising that the new technical equipment is "adjusted" during the process of operation. Even a new automobile is constantly being adjusted and fine-tuned, so what can one expect from the most complicated missile and radioelectronic complexes. If only the complaints from the Navy against industry were related to unavoidable factors! But in reality it turns out that the same shortcomings are duplicated from year to year in series-produced products. The ships have the most complaints about the ordnance radar which has already been mentioned. It has caused problems since it was first produced. First is the fact that it does not fit in with the equipment complexes; then there are frequent breakdowns. And the imperfections of new technical equipment are quite incomprehensible and derive not from its complexity, but from negligence in operation and elementary underestimation of operating conditions. The arms complexes installed on the cruiser Baku are reliable on the whole. But the antenna posts [antennye posty] on some of them have, in the opinion of specialists, poor water protection. On this same ship the system for transmitting information to aircraft is practically unused because of its lack of adjustment, while in air defense units a similar system works without fail.

"And we are forced to use ultrashort-wave stations to transmit data," complains Captain A. Kuznetsov, chief of the ship post [korabelskiy post]. "Even if we take the stations from the ship they still do not have interference protectors."

Industrial enterprises take a certain amount of responsibility for delivering products of inadequate quality to the Navy in the form of fines, and sometimes they are significant ones. Ships of one of the BCh-2 [command unit-2] projects have a feeder circuit [agregat pitaniya] that costs about R10,000. And last year alone the manufacturing plant paid R800,000 for replacement claims submitted to it for these circuits. It is good that the warranty is still in effect. But what about when it expires?

"Last year our administration alone paid industrial enterprises several million rubles for various kinds of repair"—the deputy chief of the naval radio equipment administration, Captain 1st Rank V. Drigola, gives the figure as though even he himself is impressed by it, and adds: "Right away, in the stage of manufacture, that money should be invested in the quality and reliability of the equipment."

One cannot but agree with such a wish, the more so since the day is not far off when the Navy, like all the Armed Forces, will be in a position where it will have to count every ruble. We are coming to the end of the time when it was possible to "shake loose" hundreds of thousands and millions of rubles—who was counting? That is the way it was throughout the country but now we must learn to be business people... We must spend money only when it is really necessary. And, of course, we must not plug up the holes in the quality and reliability of equipment delivered by industry with what few rubles we have.

The fact that industry has begun to repair the technical equipment it delivers to the Navy more frequently and at greater expense is explained partially by the fact that the technical equipment itself is more complicated. While previously the Navy was quite capable of doing the repair work itself, now it can in no way get by without relying on industry and its great repair capabilities. And although certain kinds of arms—say, mine-torpedoes—are repaired by the Navy as they were before, more and more frequently it is necessary to resort to the services of industrial enterprises. The proportion of complicated equipment—radioelectronic, missile-ordnance—is constantly increasing. Correspondingly, the Navy has to pay more and more.

"One day of work of a specialist from industry employed in repair work costs the Northern Fleet many rubles," I was told by Captain 1st Rank N. Karpov, division chief of one of the Navy's special administrations.

And in a month or a year? And how many workers and engineers are employed in dozens of brigades in industry that are permanently "registered" in the Navy? Of course, repair jobs are sometimes the result of inadequate training of personnel. But, as they say, that is a different subject, and the Navy pays for its own mistakes.

Recently I visited a nuclear missile cruiser and was simply astonished by the number of civilians on board. During the time it took me to walk from the ladder to the political officer's cabin I saw in the ship's corridors many more jackets and sweaters than I did sailor shirts or the double-breasted jackets of officers and ensigns. It was as though the ship had not left the plant and had not already completed a difficult sea crossing.

"Yes, there are now several hundred workers and engineers on the ship," explained political worker Captain 2d Rank V. Gutyum. "What does that tell us?... You know that yourself."

Indeed one need not be a specialist to see that the ship was released on schedule, but apparently with large defects. Otherwise why would industry have placed this large crew on board?

True, the military representative for the contract, Captain 3d Rank Yu. Borisov, who was also on board the ship, did not agree with this. In his energetic monologue he tried to show that it simply could not be any other way, that such a mass influx of engineers and technicians from the manufacturing enterprises was a normal and natural phenomenon.

"It is impossible to anticipate everything at the plant," he asserted. "Only here, during operation, under local climatic conditions are hidden defects revealed and corrected on the spot."

The very fact of the presence of the military representative (as we have become accustomed to calling these specialists) on the ship after it had been released is somehow very much related to what he was talking about. But there are also more significant arguments.

"Was it really impossible while designing and building the cruiser to pay attention to the poor waterproofing of the aggregate mechanisms of the missile complex?" Captain 2d Rank Tryadkin asks the question rhetorically.

And what "local climatic conditions" are needed to adjust a mooring-anchor device whose automatic equipment, in the words of senior aide Captain 3d Rank S. Kravchuk, takes a minute to "think" and then goes into operation.

"Several times the plant has tried to push this device off on us—there are no other words for it," Capt 3d Rank Kravchuk shares his bitterness. "But the commander's mate still has not signed the acceptance document—not all of the defects have been eliminated. Frequently commanders of military units have also had to refuse to sign documents for the acceptance of technical equipment. And they have tried to get me to sign a document stating that the lifting and lowering mechanism for the long boats is working well. But I did not sign it since first the relay catches on fire and then something else happens."

Having visited several defense industry enterprises that specialize in the production of technical equipment and arms for the Navy, as well as the corresponding planning organizations, I did not hear from a single one of the leaders that the complaints from the Navy about the quality and reliability of the items were unfounded. But, as is the custom, the enterprises had explanations for everything.

"Here as throughout the country the element base is weak and the level of technology is not high," head engineer of the scientific production association A. Ryzhikov presents his arguments. "This is why the quality and reliability are what they are. Moreover, we are monopolists in the production of certain products. And this is bad since the client is deprived of the possibility of choosing and we are deprived of the incentive to improve the quality of our items."

The wage system of the enterprises also has a negative effect on this indicator. They receive money mainly for quantity, for gross output, for fulfillment of the plan, for the fact, finally, that they have "dispatched" the products. And the quality of the equipment that is produced for the Navy so far has little influence on the material well-being of the plants and their labor collectives.

The client representatives should provide a reliable guarantee against defective work. Ultimately there is a permanent commission for state acceptance of ships. It has decades of experience working in the Navy. At the plants I visited, on the whole the client representatives do their jobs. As long as they are....

"More of a coarse than a fine filter," Captain 2d Rank M. Talvik, acting chief of the client representation, admits frankly. "We do not have the chance to monitor the production process in the finest details—we do this only for the final parameters. Therefore the weak areas are not revealed until the stage of testing and they require additional expenditures, sometimes considerable ones."

In essence Captain 2d Rank Talvik is right: Quality control of military products does not go deep enough. And the problem can hardly be solved, say, by increasing the staff of client representatives. The roots of the problem go back to a certain dictatorship of the producer which still exists here.

In a conversation I had with an engineer from one of the military representations, Captain 1st Rank L. Smirnov let drop a remarkable phrase:

"Industry sells the equipment the Navy will buy."

What is true is true. But why do they purchase technical equipment that is not always of the highest quality? Because they have no choice. And I did not meet a single person either in the Navy or at the enterprises who would say that a monopoly in the sphere of the production of equipment for military purposes is a good thing. Is it possible to fight against this? The head engineer of the scientific production association, A. Ryzhikov, answers in the affirmative:

"It is necessary to destroy the monopoly and introduce competitive relations more aggressively by reducing several-fold the number of items that are being developed: We have too many complexes in the works at the same time. And the money that is released can be used for organizing creative competition among 'firms.'"

As they say, variants are also possible. But one thing is quite clear: The lack of competition for the right to obtain the order impedes the improvement of the parameters of the technical equipment.

In meetings at enterprises I heard repeatedly: The manufacturers must be materially motivated to further improve the quality and reliability of technical equipment. As was already stated, so far the ruble orients them mainly toward increasing quantitative indicators.

"Product quality remains a matter of conscience for us," said the leader of one of the enterprises.

Conscience is undoubtedly necessary. But we know that it is not always the best controller. And therefore we must find more effective guarantees of high quality.

A large item of expenditures for the Navy are the industrial brigades that do operational repair of ship equipment. Just one administration of the Northern Fleet, the radiotechnical administration, paid an immense amount of money for their work last year. And yet these expenditures could be significantly reduced if they were to change over to the new organization of work and payment for the labor of these brigades. With the existing relations between the Navy and industry, payment for the services of the brigades is made, as a rule, simply for their presence in the Navy. And the money is paid to them regardless of how the brigade members are actually employed, their qualifications, the quality of the work they do, the technical readiness of the materials, and other extremely important indicators.

"That is, we do not have an organizational and economic system that takes all of these constituents into account," says a high-ranking radio equipment controller, I. Bevin.

He has been searching long and unsuccessfully for a way out of this blind alley which in no way stimulates the activity of the brigades in industry, improvement of the quality of their work, or reduction of expenditures. Igor Fedorovich considers it necessary to arrange interrelations among specialized subdivisions and brigades on a principally new basis—on the basis of paid services (although its innovation is relative: It is already widely used in other spheres).

Any work, any time a brigade is called to a ship from industry, any time plant specialists conduct a class for personnel, it must be paid for. That is, the money will be paid out not for spending work time but for what was actually done. Of course this requires scientifically substantiated calculations of prices and normatives. And Bebin has a model of these calculations.

To begin with I. Bebin suggests conducting an experiment in which he himself is prepared to participate actively. He goes further, expressing his readiness to create a small collective of highly skilled specialists working under a leasing contract. This will make it possible to sharply reduce the number of members of the brigade and Navy expenditures to pay for its work.

It seems that there is a grain of reason in Bebin's suggestions. And not only his and not just one grain. If they "sprout," in addition to everything else this will provide a strong impetus for improvement of repair training of personnel. In order to save money and economize, it will be used for other purposes—partially, perhaps, for incentives for ship specialists who operate the equipment without breakdowns, and the Navy will try to call out the brigades from industry as "first aid"—in the most urgent cases. But another problem arises here: How, through which organizational and economic measures, can we quickly raise the level of repair training for seamen and petty officers, ensigns and officers? Will material incentive for the Navy solve this problem?

There is no doubt that defense industry enterprises that produce equipment for the Navy have many complexities and difficulties. But here it is important to keep priorities in mind. The Navy, not to go into particulars, does not and cannot have anything to do with the problems of industry. For nobody will listen to explanations from the Navy, its good excuses, including the imperfection of equipment delivered to it by industry, if it fails to perform any of the tasks for which it is responsible. The Navy and only the Navy bears responsibility for these. There is no doubt about the correctness of this approach: Each must be responsible for his own part of the work. And therefore the Navy has the right to demand that the equipment and arms installed on the ships be of high quality and reliability. In should not pay—either in rubles or in combat readiness—for the defects of industry.

Regulations Hamper Military Equipment Sell-Off

PM2206111589 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 20 Jun 89 Second Edition p 4

[Own Correspondent V. Ogurtsov report: "Armored Personnel Carrier Under the Hammer: North Caucasus Military District Hardware on Sale"]

[Text] Rostov-na-Donu—The announcement published by the local newspapers was quite unexpected: The Rostov Main Administration for Material and Technical Supply [glavsnab] was offering cooperative members a chance to buy all kinds of things, including specialized vehicles and trucks. Where does such surplus stock come from if state enterprises have been dreaming of owning such things for a long time? The whole explanation was quite simple: The main administration is selling off equipment "subject to reduction" in the North Caucasus Military District.

"It is not just a question of transport vehicles: We have already received almost R1.5 million in sales that way. We are also sending the national economy other material resources which used to belong to the district's engineering, medical, clothing, and other services," Colonel E. Rzayev, chief of the rear services staff, said. "The resolution of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers and the order of the Defense Ministry are being carried out.

"It is no coincidence that the civilian main administration, which is acting as our intermediary, is addressing itself to cooperative members and to those who engage in individual labor activity: The hardware and material resources which are being 'discharged' are intended precisely for them. For the state this means an opportunity to repay at least part of the vast expenditure on maintaining the army. Furthermore, cooperative members will buy the equipment not at wholesale price but at three times the residual value. This year alone we are due to sell vehicles and other material assets worth a total of several million rubles...."

The Rostov glavsnab commercial center hasn't enough time to answer the telephone queries: You can't list everything in a short advertisement, but no cooperative member will want to miss such a good opportunity.

"Of course, the former military hardware is in great demand. Its condition, from initial assembly at the plant to the final technical maintenance, goes without saying, after all," V. Tokarev, first deputy chief of the main administration, said. "Light trucks and dump trucks are in special demand."

However, the main sales problem is becoming increasingly clear. By no means all military equipment is appropriate to cooperative members. Even the wildest imagination could not conceive where a radiation decontamination unit, a powerful tractor truck, or a heavyweight fuel tanker could be used. In addition, many of the units run on high octane fuel and therefore expensive gasoline. A state farm or an enterprise could afford the upkeep of such machines but not a "private individual." But the resolution strictly and unambiguously insists: only cooperative members and "individuals"!

Thus we have stalemate: The military have already written off this equipment, but it cannot be assigned to the national economy. I think it would be more sensible to adopt appropriate amendments to the Central Committee and Council of Ministers resolution—sell, even if at wholesale price. Why should good machines stand rusting when there is so much to be done all around?

Bulgarian Paper on 'Converted' Military Plants

AU2206153189 Sofia OTECHESTVEN FRONT in Bulgarian 21 Jun 89 p 2

[Article by Moscow correspondent Vasil Asparukhov: "Secret Plant....With No Secrets"]

[Excerpts] The town of Votkins—this is the well-known address of a Soviet plant which until recently was top secret. Colonel Douglas Englund, of the U.S. Army, can be often seen at the door of this plant these days. He is a member of the U.S. mission in charge of observing the implementation of the INF Treaty by the USSR.

Until recently, the Votkins plant produced No 22 and 23 operational-tactical missiles, as well as SS-20 missiles. Today, as Colonel Eglund's colleagues had the opportunity to observe, computer-operated lathes, as well as food industry equipment, "Feya" automatic washers, and baby carriages are being produced in the same plant. Real disarmament is already under way. Methods for a disarmament economy are sought; the conversion will make it possible to apply the most updated technologies of the military industry to the production of consumer goods for civilians.

The scope of the conversion can be most eloquently illustrated by citing the following data: The implementation of the INF Treaty alone enables the USSR to attain annual savings worth R 300 million. The decision to reduce the USSR Armed Forces by 500,000 men and to eliminate 10,000 tanks will even more strongly influence the country's national economy. It means that urgently required Diesel motors will be released for other purposes, that large amounts of fuels and lubricants and several hundred thousand tons of high-quality steel will be saved, that important repair and service capacities will be adapted to civilian industry. [passage omitted]

The experience of a Soviet-West German joint economic enterprise based in Odessa, which started to produce 45- and 60-ton automated cranes from the frames of eliminated medium-range missiles, is well known. [passage omitted]

A purpose-oriented program on the establishment and application of mass produced, highly effective technological equipment for the processing branches of the food industry was developed in the Soviet Union. Approximately 250 military plants and 200 design offices, engaged in the construction of military and technical equipment, are participating in the implementation of this program. The design office formerly dealing with new aircrafts, designed seven to eight models of new fruit and vegetable processing equipment. A total of 4,500 new food industry machines will be produced within the forthcoming 8 years, 3,000 of which will be created by the former military industry. In addition to this, no less than 90 percent of these machines will be up to the level of world standards.

Within the next 8 years the development of the food industry should exceed everything that has been achieved in this sector over the last 40 years. The production of equipment for the food processing branches is expected to increase four times. Within the 1988-1995 period 29,000 processing plants for agricultural goods are envisaged to be built and 38,000 enterprises of the same branch are expected to be modernized within the same period.

Conversion will extend to the space, nuclear, and electronic industries. According to data submitted by the United Nations, nearly half of the scientists all over the world are working on military projects today: Research in the military sector is gobbling up a quarter of all resources allocated for scientific projects. This is the reason why ways and means for an alternative use of the tremendous scientific potential should be sought.

Leadership Signs Obituary of Marshal Tolubko

PM2206090389 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Jun 89 Second Edition p 3

[Obituary of Chief Marshal of Artillery V.F. Tolubko, member of the CPSU Central Committee]

[Excerpts] Chief Marshal of Artillery Vladimir Fedorovich Tolubko, prominent Soviet military leader, member of the CPSU Central Committee, and Hero of Socialist Labor, died 17 June 1989 after a serious illness. [passage omitted]

V.F. Tolubko was born 25 November 1914 in Krasnograd City, Kharkov Oblast to a family of workers. [passage omitted]

In the postwar period V.F. Tolubko successfully commanded a brigade, a division, a tank army, and the troops of the Siberian and Far Eastern Military Districts, and was commander in chief of the Strategic Rocket Forces. From 1985 he was general inspector of the USSR Defense Ministry group of general inspectors. [passage omitted]

[Signed] M.S. Gorbachev, V.I. Vorotnikov, L.N. Zaykov, Ye.K. Ligachev, V.A. Medvedev, V.P. Nikonov, N. I. Ryzhkov, N.N. Slyunkov, V.M. Chebrikov, E.A. Shevardnadze, V.V. Shcherbitskiy, A.N. Yakovlev, A.P. Biryukova, A.V. Vlasov, A.I. Lukyanov, Yu.D. Maslyukov, G.P. Razumovskiy, Yu.F. Solovyev, N.V. Talyzin, D.T. Yazov, O.D. Baklanov, M.A. Moiseyev, P.G. Lushev, K.A. Kochetov, A.D. Lizichev, A.S. Pavlov, Yu.P. Maksimov, V.I. Varennikov, I.M. Tretyak, A.N. Yefimov, V.N. Chernavin, M.I. Sorokin, V.M. Arkhipov, V.M. Shabanov, N.V. Chekov, V.L. Govorov, D.S. Sukhorukov, Yu.A. Yashin, S.F. Akhromeyev, V.G. Kulikov, S.K. Kurkotkin, N.V. Ogarkov, V.I. Petrov, S.L. Sokolov, I.G. Pavlovskiy, I.N. Shkadov, A.P. Volkov, and V.S. Rodin.

'No Grounds for Complacency' Over AIDS in Army

PM2106133189

[Editorial Report] Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian on 20 June in its First Edition publishes on page 4 under the headline "AIDS Does Not Rest... Two Letters on the Same Topic" a feature comprising two letters followed by a commentary from correspondent Ye. Agapova.

The first letter from Z. Pogodayeva, mother of a seaman, complains about a shortage of safety razors in her son's unit, which means that razors are shared—thus increasing the danger of spreading HIV and other infections. The second letter, from Senior Lieutenant (Reserve) N. Bezvorodov, denies the existence of homosexuality in the army.

These are followed by a commentary from correspondent Ye. Agapova which reads as follows:

"We are coming across letters on the subject of AIDS with increasing frequency in our mailbag. We have begun to see that people are dying from this virus not just 'over there.' Having suffered the recent terrible incident in Elista, where medics infected children with the virus through criminal negligence, and now the outbreak of AIDS in other areas, we have realized that the time for complacency is past. Everyone is defenseless in the face of irresponsibility.

"At the beginning of last year there were only a few carriers of the virus in the country. This figure has now risen to 269. Today the threat posed by the dreadful ailment is giving rise to a tremendous number of problems —social, moral, ethical, and strictly medical problems. These letters are an example of this. But were we really still talking about such a commonplace procedure as shaving yesterday? Shaving has now been abolished as a service provided by hairdressers, owing to the danger of transmitting the AIDS virus. We asked Major General (Medical Service) V. Chyrev, chief hygienist at the USSR Ministry of Defense, to comment on the case cited by the seaman's mother. It transpires that the sharing of razor blades has been forbidden in the Army for a long time. Hygiene demands are elementary: A soldier must have his own toothbrush, soap, and razor. As for confiscating eau de cologne, that is a 'local' initiative on someone's part. Just as the absence of safety razors in the military store is an omission on the part of the military trading organization. Although, as we were assured at the Central Military-Medical Directorate, no carriers of the virus have been detected in the Armed Forces as yet, this does not allow us to disregard elementary rules of hygiene among servicemen. The following question arises: Do these seamen know how the virus is transmitted and what precautionary measures to take against contracting AIDS? Where does a servicemen derive his information in general? I recently obtained a copy of a soldier's booklet on AIDS prevention published by the Baltic Military District medical service. I cannot resist the temptation to cite some gems: 'An infected person is not conscious of the illness right away... although people around him are infected by him, and not only through sexual intercourse. In a moment of joy at a longed-for meeting the unfortunate person may kiss his beloved, his brothers, and sisters, and 'AIDS death' kisses them along with him (the unfortunate person—Ye.A.) since the virus can also be transmitted through saliva.'

"Then the booklet talks about people who have contracted the disease socially and says that early diagnosis and isolation of the sick person can prevent AIDS. What is more terrible?! the authors of the booklet moan.

"Indeed, what could be more dreadful than this kind of misinformation, leaving aside its literary 'merits'? How much has already been written and said to the effect that the virus can only be transmitted sexually, through blood, or by passing from an infected mother to a child. The virus is not transmitted socially or through saliva [as published]. It is not early diagnosis and isolation that are the main guarantee against infection but every person's observance of moral and ethical rules of conduct.

"Now a word about the letter that touched on this delicate subject. Let us give up this hypocritical bashfulness. It is well known that our country's first AIDS patient from the so-called risk group also associated with soldiers. That case alone—albeit an isolated one—gives us no grounds for complacency."

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